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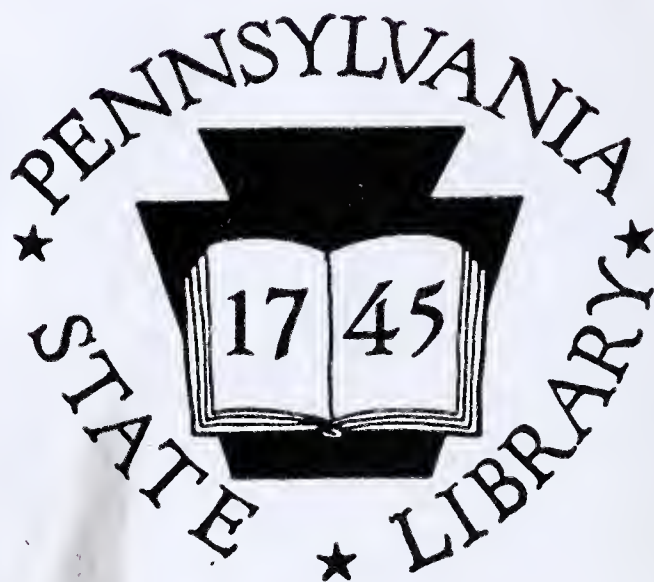


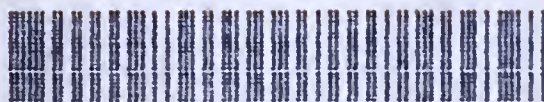
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GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
OF THE
MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY
OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA,
AND
MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING.

BEING EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF ITS EMERGENT, QUARTERLY,
AND ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATIONS

DURING THE YEAR A.D. 1885—A.L. 5885.

PHILADELPHIA:

1886.



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Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

GRAND LODGE OF EMERGENCY.

Held at Philadelphia, February 4, A.D. 1883, A.L. 3883.

PRESENT:

Bro. E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
“ CONRAD B. DAY . . .	<i>Acting as R. W. Deputy Grand Master.</i>
“ CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . . .	<i>R. W. Senior Grand Warden.</i>
“ MICHAEL ARNOLD . . .	<i>Acting as R. W. Junior Grand Warden.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ MICHAEL NISBET . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Secretary.</i>
“ CHARLES H. KINGSTON . . .	<i>Deputy Grand Secretary.</i>
“ GEORGE S. GRAHAM . . .	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ WILLIAM B. HANNA . . .	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ JAMES W. ROBINS, D.D. . . .	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
“ S. KINGSTON McCAY . . .	} <i>Grand Stewards.</i>
“ J. WESLEY SUPPLEE . . .	
“ GEORGE W. WOOD . . .	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
“ LOUIS M. CHASTEAU . . .	<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
“ ROBERT P. DECHERT . . .	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
“ WILLIAM A. SINN . . .	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>
“ RICHARD VAUX . . .	} <i>R. W. Past Grand Masters.</i>
“ ROBERT A. LAMBERTON . . .	
“ SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .	
“ SAMUEL B. DICK . . .	
“ MICHAEL NISBET . . .	
“ CONRAD B. DAY . . .	

Bro. RICHARD VAUX	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of New York, Illinois, Alabama, Texas, Min- nesota, Washington Territory, and Colon and Cuba.</i>
" ROBERT A. LAMBERTON . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.</i>
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of Canada and Louisiana.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of North Caro- lina.</i>
" CONRAD B. DAY	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.</i>
" E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Idaho.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan.</i>
" MICHAEL ARNOLD	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas.</i>
" ROBERT P. DECHERT . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Indian Ter- ritory.</i>
" WILLIAM B. HANNA . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont.</i>
" JAMES W. ROBINS	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.</i>

Twelve Lodges represented.

Grand Lodge opened in ample form at 6 o'clock 10 minutes P.M.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master stated to the Brethren that he had called this meeting for the purpose of making [by virtue of his presence] Right

Reverend WILLIAM STEVENS PERRY, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Iowa, a Mason.

WILLIAM STEVENS PERRY was then regularly Entered, Passed and Raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Grand Lodge closed in harmony at 8 o'clock 30 minutes P.M.

Michael Nisbet
Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, March 4, A.D. 1885, A.L. 5885.

PRESENT:

Bro. E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . .	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
“ JOSEPH EICHBAUM . . .	<i>R. W. Deputy Grand Master.</i>
“ CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA .	<i>R. W. Senior Grand Warden.</i>
“ J. SIMPSON AFRICA . . .	<i>R. W. Junior Grand Warden.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ MICHAEL NISBET . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Secretary.</i>
“ CHARLES H. KINGSTON .	<i>Deputy Grand Secretary.</i>
“ ALEXANDER H. MORGAN .	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ SAMUEL W. WRAY . . .	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ LUTHER F. SMITH . . .	} <i>Grand Chaplains.</i>
“ JAMES W. ROBINS, D.D. .	
“ HENRY S. GETZ . . .	
“ JOHN S. J. McCONNELL .	
“ WILLIAM B. LAMBERTON .	} <i>D. D. Grand Masters.</i>
“ JOHN G. BOBB . . .	
“ WILLIAM A. MORTON . .	
“ THADDEUS S. ADLE . . .	
“ HENRY A. TYSON . . .	
“ ROBERT H. LERCH . . .	
“ ISAAC A. ELLIOTT . . .	
“ LAIRD H. BARBER . . .	
“ ELBERT F. JONES . . .	
“ FREDERICK H. KELLER .	

Bro. EDGAR A. TENNIS . . .	}	<i>D. D. Grand Masters.</i>
" JOHN H. DIBERT . . .		
" CALEB C. THOMPSON . .		
" MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON		
" S. KINGSTON McCAY . .	}	<i>Grand Stewards.</i>
" WILLIAM H. BELLOWS .		
" GEORGE W. WOOD . . .		<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
" SAMUEL J. DICKEY . . .		<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
" HIBBERT P. JOHN . . .		<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
" WILLIAM A. SINN . . .		<i>Grand Tyler.</i>
" RICHARD VAUX	}	<i>R. W. Past Grand Masters.</i>
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .		
" CONRAD B. DAY		
" RICHARD VAUX	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of New York, Illinois, Alabama, Texas, Minnesota, Washington Ter- ritory, and Colon and Cuba.</i>
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of North Caro- lina.</i>
" CONRAD B. DAY		
" E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Idaho.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA .		
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.</i>
" AUGUSTUS R. HALL . . .		
" CHARLES E. MEYER . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.</i>
" JOHN CURTIS		

BRO. J. PARKER MARTIN . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.</i>
“ JAMES W. ROBINS . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.</i>
“ LOUIS WAGNER . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.</i>

One hundred and two Lodges represented.

Grand Lodge opened in ample form at 6 o'clock
15 minutes P.M.

An appeal was received from ——— from the
action of Lodge No. 355, in suspending him for non-
payment of dues.

Referred to Committee on Appeals.

An appeal was received from Brother ———, of
Lodge 91, against the final action of Lodge 19 in the
case of Brother ———.

Referred to Committee on Appeals.

A missive was received and read from Most Wor-
shipful ROBERT F. STEVENSON, Esquire, Grand Master
of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient
Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri,
United States of America, appointing Brother J. SIMP-
SON AFRICA the Representative of that Grand Lodge
near the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsyl-
vania, when, on motion, the missive was received, and
Brother J. SIMPSON AFRICA acknowledged as the Rep-
resentative of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of
Missouri near this Grand Lodge.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master called the attention of Grand Lodge to the portrait of Washington as a Freemason, which had been hung upon the wall back of the Grand Master's chair; and informed the Brethren that it had been deposited with the Grand Lodge by Brother DAVID W. SELLERS, attorney for the owner, to be delivered up to him upon his order.

He further informed Grand Lodge that he had received a most fraternal invitation from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of the District of Columbia for the Grand Officers and Brethren of Grand Lodge to attend the Dedication of the Washington Monument on February 22, 1885. Inasmuch as he was personally unable to be present, owing to engagements beyond his control, and the Deputy Grand Master was also unable to go, he requested Brother CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA, the Senior Grand Warden, to go with the other Grand Officers to represent the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on the occasion. Brother MACCALLA was accompanied by the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, and also Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Brother RICHARD VAUX, and they were most fraternally received by the Grand Master and Brethren of the District of Columbia.

Grand Lodge closed in harmony at 8 o'clock P.M.

Michael A. Nisbet
Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, June 3, A.D. 1883, A.L. 5883.

PRESENT:

BRO. E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
" JOSEPH EICHBAUM . . .	<i>R. W. Deputy Grand Master.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . . .	<i>R. W. Senior Grand Warden.</i>
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA . . .	<i>R. W. Junior Grand Warden.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Secretary.</i>
" CHARLES H. KINGSTON . . .	<i>Deputy Grand Secretary.</i>
" JOSEPH ORR	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
" GEORGE E. WAGNER . . .	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
" JAMES W. ROBINS, D.D. . . .	} <i>Grand Chaplains.</i>
" HENRY S. GETZ	
" JOHN G. BOBB	
" THADDEUS S. ADLE . . .	
" HENRY A. TYSON	} <i>D. D. Grand Masters.</i>
" BENJAMIN F. GILKESON . . .	
" LAIRD H. BARBER	
" SAMUEL L. FRENCH	
" FREDERICK H. KELLER . . .	
" ELIAS W. HALE	
" CHARLES L. WHEELER . . .	
" JOHN J. WADSWORTH . . .	
" MYRON PARK DAVIS	
" IRVIN MCFARLAND	
" MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON . . .	
" WILLIAM B. MEREDITH . . .	
" ANDREW J. COLBURN	

Bro. S. KINGSTON McCAY . . .	}	<i>Grand Stewards.</i>
" J. WESLEY SUPPLEE . . .		
" GEORGE W. WOOD . . .		<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
" LOUIS M. CHASTEAU . . .		<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
" ROBERT P. DECHERT . . .		<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
" WILLIAM A. SINN . . .		<i>Grand Tyler.</i>
" RICHARD VAUX . . .	}	<i>R. W. Past Grand Masters.</i>
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .		
" CONRAD B. DAY . . .		
" RICHARD VAUX . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of New York, Illinois, Alabama, Texas, Min- nesota, Washington Territory, and Colon and Cuba.</i>
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of North Caro- lina.</i>
" CONRAD B. DAY . . .		
" E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Idaho.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . . .		
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.</i>
" MICHAEL ARNOLD . . .		
" AUGUSTUS R. HALL . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.</i>
" CHARLES E. MEYER . . .		
" WILLIAM B. HACKENBURG . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island.</i>
" J. PARKER MARTIN . . .		
		<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.</i>

BRO. JAMES W. ROBINS . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.</i>
“ ROBERT P. DECHERT . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Indian Ter- ritory.</i>
“ WILLIAM B. HANNA . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont.</i>
“ LOUIS WAGNER	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.</i>

One hundred and four Lodges represented.

Grand Lodge opened in ample form at 7 o'clock 10 minutes P.M.

A Petition for a Warrant for a Lodge to be held at Brockwayville, Jefferson County, was read, and, on motion, referred to the Grand Officers, with power to act.

An appeal of ——— from the action of ——— Lodge, No. 283, in suspending him October 3, 1884, was received, and referred to the Committee on Appeals.

A Circular Letter was received and read from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Manitoba, announcing the death of Most Worshipful Brother Colonel WILLIAM NASSAU KENNEDY, Past Grand Master of said Grand Lodge.

Ordered to be entered and filed.

The Grand Secretary reported Lodges Nos. 153, 241, 272, 416, 428, and 501 suspended for want of returns.

The Grand Secretary reported that Lodge No. 153 was suspended for two years' dues, and that the Warrant would be vacated at the Communication in September next without the dues are paid.

The Committee on Appeals made the following report, when, on motion, the resolution thereto attached was adopted:

PHILADELPHIA, June 1, 1885, A.L. 5885.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

In the matter of the appeal of Brother ——— from the action of ——— Lodge, No. 355, F. A. M., in suspending him from said Lodge for non-payment of dues.

The Brother was summoned by notice dated December 1, 1884, mailed on the 2d, to appear at the next stated meeting, December 11, naming the amount of his dues, with an extract from the By-Laws upon the subject, and a copy of the following resolution adopted by the Lodge November 13, 1884:

“Resolved, That those Brethren who will be one year or more in arrears for dues on St. John’s Day next, be and they are hereby summoned to appear at the next stated meeting and pay their arrearages or show cause why they shall not be suspended for non-payment thereof.”

The Ahiman Rezon, Section 41, page 55, requires: “When a member is to be notified by his Lodge that he is liable to suspension for non-payment of dues, the Secretary shall, one month before final action, send notice to the place of residence last reported by said Member to him,” etc.

The action of the Lodge in suspending Brother ——— on December 11 was therefore unlawful.

The Committee offer the following:

Resolved, That the appeal of Brother ——— be sustained and he be restored to membership in ——— Lodge, No. 355.

Fraternally submitted,

WM. B. HACKENBURG,

For the Committee.

The Committee on Appeals made the following report, when, on motion, the resolution thereto attached was adopted:

*To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted
Masons of Pennsylvania :*

In the matter of the appeal of Brother ———, of Lodge No. 91, from the action of Lodge No. 19, dismissing charges against Brother ———, an Entered Apprentice Mason.

Two important questions are involved in this appeal :

First. The first in natural order is as to the right of the appellant, who is a member of Lodge No. 91, to appeal from the action of Lodge No. 19, of which of course he is not a member. No question as to his right to appear in Lodge No. 19 as accuser was made at any time from the presentation of the charges against the accused until this appeal was made to the Grand Lodge, nor could such a question have been successfully raised, for the right of any Mason to prefer charges against another, whether he belongs to the same Lodge or not, is universally recognized as a rule of Masonic Law. The rule is as follows :

“In every trial in a Lodge for an offence against the laws and regulations or the principles of Masonry any Master Mason may be the accuser of another, but a profane cannot be permitted to prefer charges against a Mason. . . .

“It is not necessary that the accuser should be a member of the same Lodge. It is sufficient if he is an affiliated Mason ; but it is generally held that an unaffiliated Mason is no more competent to prefer charges than a profane.”

It follows as a natural sequence that he who has a right to accuse has also a right to all the processes necessary to sustain his accusation, including that of appeal to the Grand Lodge. Were it otherwise the position of the accuser in a case like the present one would be anomalous. Had the Lodge in this case sustained the charges there could be no doubt as to the right of the accused to appeal, and if the complainant has no right to appear here as appellant, it is difficult to see upon what principle he could be heard as appellee, and the appeal would be a one-sided proceeding.

This question is urged on the part of the accused because the

Ahiman Rezon does not expressly provide that the accuser, if a member of another Lodge, may appeal. One answer to this position is that the Ahiman Rezon does not contain a word which forbids the right of appeal in such a case; but, on the contrary, when all the provisions of the Ahiman Rezon relating to the subject, and the forms for trial, are considered together, as they must be, they clearly establish the right.

It is true that the accuser is not named in the 7th Section of Article XIV.; upon that alone the accused stands; but that section simply provides that, "When an appeal is made to the Grand Lodge by an accused, or by a Member of a Lodge which has finally acted on the case of such accused person, against the action of the Lodge, in such case, *it shall be referred to the Committee on Appeals.*" It merely directs what course an appeal shall take when brought into the Grand Lodge.

The next section is more explicit:

"The Committee shall cause notice to be given to the Lodge, the party accused, *and the complainant* who made the charges before the Lodge, *or any Brother complaining of the action* of the Lodge, of the time and place," etc.

It will be observed that while Section 7 uses the phraseology, "or by a *member of a Lodge* which has finally acted," Section 8 uses much broader language and says, "and the complainant, . . . or *any Brother* complaining of the action of the Lodge," and therefore clearly recognizes the right of any *Brother* to complain of the action of the Lodge,—that is, to appeal. It is unnecessary to say that "Brother" in Masonic language is far more comprehensive than "members," and cannot be limited to the members of any particular Lodge.

This view is strengthened by Section 13 of the same article, which provides:

"The appellant, the Lodge, the complainant, and such other parties as the case may require, may be represented before the Committee by a Master Mason, to be chosen by them, or either of them."

It may be said that this relates only to cases in which the accused is the appellant. If so it would deny to the accused as well as to the complainant the right of being so represented in cases where Members of the same Lodge are the appellants; but the section does not admit of such a technical construction. It is intended to confer the right of representation in all cases to all necessary parties, and for that purpose must be construed as though it read, "The complainant, the Lodge, and the accused."

There is, therefore, nothing in the Ahiman Rezon, fairly construed, that abridges the right under the universal law of the Fraternity, of a member of one Lodge to prefer charges against a member of another, or that deprives him of the right to appear before the Grand Lodge either as appellant or appellee. This principle must be understood, however, as applicable only to cases involving violations of the Landmarks and the general laws of Freemasonry, which it is the duty of every member of the Craft not only to obey but also to defend. There may be cases in which this right could not be recognized, as, for instance, where a Mason is charged with violating a by-law of his Lodge. The present case is not such an one. The charge sufficiently involves the general law of Freemasonry as to establish the right of the appellant to prefer the charge and to appeal from the action of the Lodge.

Second. The second question involves the right of the Grand Lodge, on charges against a Mason, to determine whether or not he was at the time of his initiation under the tongue of good Masonic report; or stated in another way, the right to discipline a Mason for moral offences committed whilst he was a profane.

The charge is that the accused was not under the tongue of good Masonic report, that at the time of his making he was not worthy of being made a Freemason, and is not now a suitable person for advancement. The numerous specifications alleged to sustain the charge contain matters occurring at intervals through a period of ten years prior to initiation, only one of which was found by the trial Committee to have been proven, and it was of such a nature under the attending circumstances as in their judgment was insufficient to sustain the charge. The Committee

recommended that the charge be dismissed, and their recommendation was unanimously adopted by the Lodge.

Had the charge been referred to a Committee to report as to its sufficiency, as required by the Ahiman Rezon, it is highly probable that the case would never have reached the Grand Lodge in its present shape, for then the very question we are now called upon to decide would have been disposed of, and a lengthy trial, in which forty-eight witnesses were examined and two hundred and fourteen manuscript pages of testimony taken, with the attending personal friction and feeling, would have been avoided.

Whilst the charge alleges that the accused is not now a suitable person for advancement, there is not even the obscurest hint in the record that his conduct since he was made a Mason has been in the least degree questionable; therefore we have nothing before us but moral delinquencies, alleged to have occurred not only before his initiation, but before his petition was approved.

It will, of course, be conceded that had the accused never become a Mason the Craft could not have exercised the power of discipline over him, and we think that it is equally clear that we have no more jurisdiction over a Mason for offences committed by him whilst he was a profane, for we can only discipline a Mason for Masonic offences, and Masonic offences can only be committed by Masons. The immoral life of a profane is certainly no reproach to Freemasonry, and, consequently, cannot be an offence against its laws, nor can it possibly become an offence should he afterwards be admitted as a member of the Fraternity. It is otherwise, however, with the immoral life of a Mason, for then it becomes a Masonic offence and falls under the jurisdiction of Masonic authority.

It is contended, however, that as the charge alleges that the accused was not under the tongue of good Masonic report, he was initiated in violation of the Landmark; but that involves a question that cannot be raised in this proceeding. If a Landmark were indeed violated, the Lodge is the offender, and not the accused, and this is not the way to reach the remedy. If this proceeding could stand and the charge be sustained, the

accused would have to be punished by either reprimand, suspension, or expulsion, all of which recognize the regularity of his initiation, and, as a consequence, rebut the suggestion that a Landmark was violated in his making. If a Landmark were violated, the action of the Lodge was necessarily void; but that result cannot be ascertained in any other way than by proceedings directly against the Lodge, for it must be manifest to every one that the integrity of the action of a Lodge cannot be impeached through an accusation against one of its members. The Lodge must have notice of the charge against it and opportunity to defend its action.

It is unnecessary to indicate any opinion whether or not the Grand Lodge can investigate the action of a subordinate Lodge in determining that an applicant is under the tongue of good Masonic report. It will be time enough to do so when the proper proceeding is instituted against the Lodge itself. In the mean time it may not be amiss to suggest that, should such a right be sustained and the Grand Lodge should adjudge that the applicant was not under the tongue of good Masonic report, the Grand Lodge might have an equal right to reverse the unfavorable action of a Lodge in such a case and order that the applicant be initiated. At all events, it seems clear to your Committee that the Grand Lodge will be exceedingly slow to inquire into the action of a subordinate Lodge in determining whether or not an applicant is under the tongue of good Masonic report, should it ever assert its right to do so.

The Committee unanimously concur in this report and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the views contained in this report be approved and the appeal dismissed.

Fraternally submitted.

For the Committee,

SAMUEL HARPER.

June 3, 1885.

The Special Committee to whom were referred the charges preferred by District Deputy Grand Master

CHARLES E. RIGGS against Dushore Lodge, No. 387, made the following report, when, on motion, the resolutions thereto attached were adopted :

PHILADELPHIA, June 3, 1885, A.L. 5885.

To the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania :

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN,—Your Committee, to whom was referred the report of District Deputy Grand Master RIGGS, preferring certain complaints and charges against Dushore Lodge, No. 387, located at Dushore, Sullivan County, Pennsylvania, respectfully report :

That they met on April 2, 1885, at the Temple, Broad and Filbert Streets, Philadelphia.

Members present: Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Brother RICHARD VAUX, Chairman, and Brothers BENJAMIN F. GILKESON, WILLIAM J. KELLY, JOHN SLINGLUFF, and LOUIS WAGNER, the latter being appointed Secretary.

District Deputy Grand Master RIGGS was present by invitation, and the following officers of Lodge No. 387, upon summons lawfully issued: Brothers GEORGE H. HONNETTER, Past Master, and CHARLES KISNER, Secretary, with the books of the Lodge.

Brother CHARLES E. BULLOCK, of Canton Lodge, No. 415, was also present.

After a very full hearing of the several Brethren interested in the complaints and charges, and a careful examination of the books submitted, and also an inquiry touching the knowledge of the representatives of Dushore Lodge of the written and unwritten laws, customs, and usages of the Fraternity, your Committee advised that these Brethren return home and arrange with their Worshipful Master and other officers for a visit to this city to receive further instructions; if, after such visit and instruction, the District Deputy Grand Master should report commendable progress on the part of the Brethren, with assurance of future conformity to the regulations of the Craft, and a reasonable expectation of growth in Masonic light and knowl-

edge, then, and in that case, we should recommend that the Warrant of Constitution remain in force and effect; if the report were of an opposite character we should advise its recall.

District Deputy Grand Master Brother CHARLES E. RIGGS, under date of April 27, 1885, reports his continued conviction that the Lodge cannot be brought into satisfactory and creditable accord with our customs and laws, and reiterates his previous recommendation that its Warrant be sequestered.

It is the unanimous opinion of the Committee, which it here reluctantly expresses, that the longer continuance of a Lodge at Dushore, under the conditions which have existed, and which continue to exist there, is most prejudicial to the best interests of the Craft. The lack of ability in, and the want of intelligent comprehension by, the Brethren at Dushore of the character of our institution, its laws, customs, and usages, as shown by our investigation, induces us to suggest that the best interests of the Grand Lodge require that their Warrant be revoked.

We therefore offer the following resolutions and ask their adoption :

Resolved, That the Warrant of Constitution of Dushore Lodge, No. 387, located at Dushore, Sullivan County, Pennsylvania, be, and it is hereby, revoked, and the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Right Worshipful Grand Master, is authorized and directed to secure its return, together with the books, papers, jewels, furniture, and funds of the Lodge, and on such return to issue to all the members of said Lodge, lawfully entitled thereto, the certificate prescribed in Section 22, Article XVII., of the Ahiman Rezon.

Resolved, That this Committee be discharged.

Appended find the following papers :

1. Copy of Resolution of Grand Lodge appointing Special Committee to investigate complaints and charges preferred by District Deputy Grand Master RIGGS against Dushore Lodge.
2. The complaints and charges preferred.
3. Grand Lodge summons to Brothers HORACE G. LEWIS,

APPOLLOS E. SCUREMAN, GEORGE H. LEWIS, and CHARLES KISNER, all of Dushore Lodge, with proof of service endorsed thereon ; and

4. Final report of District Deputy Grand Master RIGGS, under date of April 27, 1885.

By direction of the Committee, and fraternally submitted,

LOUIS WAGNER,

Secretary.

Grand Lodge closed in harmony at 8 o'clock 45 minutes P.M.

Michael Nisbet
Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, September 2, A.D. 1885, A.L. 5885.

PRESENT:

Bro. E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . .	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
" JOSEPH EICHBAUM . . .	<i>R. W. Deputy Grand Master.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . .	<i>R. W. Senior Grand Warden.</i>
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA . . .	<i>R. W. Junior Grand Warden.</i>
" LOUIS WAGNER	<i>Acting R. W. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET	<i>R. W. Grand Secretary.</i>
" CHARLES H. KINGSTON . .	<i>Deputy Grand Secretary.</i>
" GEORGE E. WAGNER . . .	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
" EDWARD STRICKLAND . .	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
" JAMES W. ROBINS, D.D. . .	} <i>Grand Chaplains.</i>
" JOHN S. J. McCONNELL . .	
" HENRY S. GETZ	
" THADDEUS S. ADLE	} <i>D. D. Grand Masters.</i>
" HENRY A. TYSON	
" CHRISTOPHER LITTLE . .	
" ASA B. STEVENS	
" FREDERICK H. KELLER . .	
" EDGAR A. TENNIS	
" JOHN H. DIBERT	
" M. H. HENDERSON	
" WILLIAM B. MEREDITH . .	
" JAMES W. McDOWELL . . .	
" IRVIN McFARLAND	
" ANDREW J. COLBORN . . .	

BRO. SAMUEL PRICE	}	<i>Grand Stewards.</i>
" GEO. W. MACLAUGHLIN . . .	}	
" GEORGE W. WOOD		<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
" LOUIS M. CHASTEAU		<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
" ROBERT P. DECHERT		<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
" WILLIAM A. SINN		<i>Grand Tyler.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET	}	<i>R. W. Past Grand Masters.</i>
" CONRAD B. DAY	}	
" MICHAEL NISBET	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of North Caro- lina.</i>
" CONRAD B. DAY	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.</i>
" E. COPPÉE MITCHELL	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Idaho.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan.</i>
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.</i>
" AUGUSTUS R. HALL	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.</i>
" CHARLES E. MEYER	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.</i>
" WILLIAM B. HACKENBURG . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, etc.</i>
" JAMES W. ROBINS	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.</i>
" ROBERT P. DECHERT	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Indian Ter- ritory.</i>
" LOUIS WAGNER	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.</i>

One hundred and two Lodges represented.

Grand Lodge opened in ample form at 7 o'clock 5 minutes P.M.

A Circular Letter was received from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Virginia, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, announcing the death of Right Worshipful Brother JOHN FRANCIS REGNAULT, Grand Treasurer.

Ordered to be entered and filed.

A Circular Letter was received from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colon and Cuba, announcing the death of Right Worshipful Brother AURELIO ALMEIDA, Grand Secretary.

Ordered to be entered and filed.

A Proclamation and Edict from the Grand Lodge of Quebec, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, proclaiming all intercourse to cease with any Lodge holding allegiance to any Foreign Grand Lodge, and meeting in that Province.

Referred to Committee on Correspondence.

The Grand Secretary reported that Lodges Nos. 241, 416, 501, and 428, reported as suspended for want of returns, have since made their returns, and their Warrants are revived by Section 18 of Article XVII. of the Ahiman Rezon.

The Grand Secretary reported that Lodge No. 153 had made their returns for 1884, and had paid all their dues for which they had been suspended, and asked Grand Lodge that the suspension be removed, when, on motion, it was

Resolved, That the suspension be removed.

The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary made the following report, which was ordered to be entered and filed:

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

The Grand Secretary respectfully presents the Annual Report of Lodges and Membership of this jurisdiction for the Masonic year ending December 27, 1884:

The number of Lodges December 27, 1883, was	381
Warrant of Lodge No. 445 vacated . . . 1	
“ “ “ 489 surrendered . . . 1	2
	<hr/>
Leaving number of Lodges December 27, 1884 .	379
 The number of Members December 27, 1883, was .	36,503
Admitted	437
Initiated	1,696
	2,133
	<hr/>
	38,636
Suspended	587
Resigned	354
Died	497
Lodge No. 488 suspended	16
Errors in correcting returns	7
	1,461
	<hr/>
Leaving number of Members December 27, 1884 .	37,175

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Nisbet
Grand Secretary

LIST OF LODGES.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF LODGES FOR 1885.

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	Admitted.	Initiated.	Suspended and Expelled.	Resigned.	Died.	Total.
2	Philadelphia	Third Monday.....		5		1	9	184
3	"	Third Tuesday.....		13		2	3	194
9	"	First Friday.....		7	4		1	181
19	"	First Thursday.....	1	5			5	254
21	Harrisburg.....	Second Monday.....	3	6	1	1	2	186
22	Sunbury.....	Evening of or after F. M..	1	2	1	2		93
25	Bristol.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M..		11			4	140
43	Lancaster.....	Second Wednesday.....	1	7	1	2	6	264
45	Pittsburgh.....	Last Wednesday.....		7	4		4	200
51	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Thursday.....	1	3	1	1	5	194
52	"	First Monday.....	2	10		2	5	175
59	"	Second Tuesday.....	3	16	3		4	404
60	Brownsville.....	First Monday.....	3	2		1	2	53
61	Wilkes-Barre	Monday on or before F. M.	4	8	4		1	127
62	Reading.....	First Monday.....		2			5	296
67	Philadelphia.....	Second Friday.....		1	1	1	2	173
70	Athens	Tuesday on or bef. F. M. & the 2d Tuesday following.	1	11		2		107
71	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Wednesday.....	1	4			3	189
72	"	Third Thursday.....		1			7	238
75	Phoenixville.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M..	4	10		1		163
81	Philadelphia.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M.			5	1	2	63
91	"	Fourth Monday.....		5		1	1	189
106	Williamsport.....	First Monday.....	2	7	1	7	1	144
108	Towanda.....	First Wednesday.....		2		1	2	180
114	Philadelphia.....	Third Friday.....		9	2		2	208
115	"	Second Monday.....		9	2		6	279
121	"	Second Thursday.....	1	4	2	1	3	197
125	"	Second Wednesday.....	1	7	4		6	244
126	"	Second Monday.....	2	4		1	2	186
130	"	Third Wednesday.....	2	4	3	1	5	280
131	"	Second Thursday.....		2	1		4	87
134	"	Last week-day night.....	4	8	2		3	184
135	"	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.	3	2	1		5	182
138	Orwigsburg....	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.						54
143	Chambersburg.....	Friday on or before F. M.		2			2	72
144	Lewisburg.....	Wednesday before F. M...	3	8				71
152	Easton.....	First Thursday.....	15	3	1	1	5	200

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	Admitted.	Initiated.	Suspended and Expelled.	Resigned.	Died.	Total.
153	Waynesburg	Monday before F. M.....					3	49
155	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	1	9		1	9	295
156	Drumore Centre	Saturday on or bef. F. M..		7	7		4	85
158	Philadelphia.....	First Tuesday.....	4	11	5		10	422
163	Monroeton.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...				1		47
164	Washington.....	First and Third Monday...	1	8	2	1	2	70
186	Philadelphia.....	Second Wednesday.....		6	3		7	304
187	"	Second Thursday.....	1	14	1		4	235
190	Norristown	First Monday.....		7		2	2	215
194	Selin's Grove.....	Two evenings before F. M.		3		7		61
197	Carlisle	Second Tuesday.....		2	2			55
199	Lock Haven.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1	5		2		151
203	Lewistown.....	Second Tuesday and St. John's Day.....	3	2	1	1	3	103
211	Philadelphia	First Friday.....	1	18			4	324
216	Pottsville.....	Monday on or before F.M.		4		3	4	190
218	Honesdale.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	2	4	7	4	1	112
219	Pittsburgh	Second Thursday.....	4	11	2		2	324
220	Hollidaysburg.....	First Tuesday.....		2	5			44
221	Pittsburgh	First and Third Thursday.		9		2	4	223
222	Minersville.....	Tuesday before F. M.....		3			2	68
223	Allegheny City.....	Second Monday.....	3	4	2	2	1	144
224	Danville.....	First Tuesday.....		1			1	85
225	Greensburg	Second Monday.....		2			3	121
226	Lebanon	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.	2	3	4	1	5	139
227	Reading	First Tuesday.....		12			4	375
228	Uniontown.....	Second Monday.....	2	7		1	1	84
229	Rochester.....	Friday on or before F. M..	2	9	10	2		105
230	Philadelphia.....	Second Wednesday.....	2	4			6	242
231	Pittsburgh.....	Third Friday.....		3	2		1	84
232	Jersey Shore.....	Friday before F. M.....		3	2	1	1	58
233	Pittston.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.		2	6	3		138
234	Meadville.....	First Thursday.....	2		2		3	105
236	Chester.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1	2	1		3	189
237	Beallsville.....	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.	2	1	3			35
238	Tamaqua	Friday on or before F. M.	2	10	2	2	4	163
240	Montrose	Wednesday on or bef. F.M. and 2 weeks afterward...		2	15	2	2	134
241	Warren.....	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.	9	14	1	2	2	132
242	Mauch Chunk.....	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.		9		2	2	115
243	New Castle.....	Fourth Tuesday.....		6	2	2	1	104
244	Kittanning.....	First Tuesday.....	4	2				91
245	Doylestown	Friday on or before F. M.	1	5	1		5	175
246	Philadelphia.....	Third Monday.....	5	13			6	365
247	Mansfield	Monday on or bef. F. M...						12
248	Tunkhannock	Monday on or bef. F. M...	1	10	2		2	131
249	Carbondale.....	First Wednesday.....	1	2	5	1	2	120
250	Sharon.....	First and Third Friday....	2	4	2	1		130
252	Fayette City.	Monday before F. M.....		1			2	47
253	Pittsburgh.....	Last Tuesday.....	1	2	1	1	3	154

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	Admitted.	Initiated.	Suspended and Expelled.	Resigned.	Died.	Total.
254	Pottstown.....	Second Wednesday.....	1	13	2	1	2	158
255	Shamokin.....	Friday on or before F. M..	2	12		1		101
256	Milton	Monday on or bef. F. M...	2	4	4	2		50
258	Conneautville	First and Third Monday...	1	1		2	2	61
259	New Brighton.....	First Tuesday.....	4	6				64
260	Carlisle.....	Third Thursday.....	2	3	1			77
261	Providence.....	Second Thursday.....	1	1	1			77
262	Orrstown	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		3				25
263	Laceyville.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	1	2			1	47
264	Columbus.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		4		1		73
265	Bloomsburg.....	Monday on or after F. M..		2	3	2	1	94
266	York	1st Tues. after 1st Monday	1	2	1		1	115
267	Tremont	Saturday on or bef. F. M..	1	2			2	115
268	Bellefonte.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	1	4	3	1	1	109
269	Pittsburgh S. Side...	First Friday.....	1	7	5	1	1	143
270	Schuylkill Haven....	Friday on or bef. F. M....						61
271	Philadelphia.....	First Monday.....		4			2	174
272	Butler	First Wednesday.....	2			1		54
273	Ardmore.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	2	16	3	1	2	148
274	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	3	7	5		3	186
275	Latrobe.....	First Monday.....	1	9	3	3	1	71
276	Brookville	Second Monday.....		4	11		2	91
277	Clarion.....	First Monday.....	3	6	5	5	1	100
278	Johnstown.....	Second Tuesday.....	2	5	2		4	115
281	Altoona.....	Third Tuesday.....	1	6	2	1	1	110
282	Hollidaysburg	Monday on or after F. M.	1	9				75
283	Bethlehem.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.	2	6	1	1	3	106
284	Catasauqua.....	Friday on or before F. M..	1	3	1		1	83
285	St. Clair.....	Tuesday before F. M.....		4			1	83
286	Columbia	First Thursday.....		2	4		3	121
287	Pittsburgh.....	Third Tuesday.....	4	9	1	1	3	263
288	Allegheny City.....	First Wednesday.....	33	4	2	1	1	105
289	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Friday.....		8	2		3	153
290	Greenville	First and third Monday...		5	13	4		110
291	Scranton.....	Third Friday.....	6	8	3	1	3	155
292	Philadelphia.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	2	5	4		2	268
294	Ashland.....	Second Thursday.....	2	2	3		2	121
295	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Wednesday.....	2	6	4	3	2	248
296	"	Second Thursday.....	1	6		3	2	163
297	Canonsburg.....	Second Monday.....		1	8	2		53
298	Media.....	Monday on or bef. F. M...		3			3	93
299	Muncy Borough.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	2	3	1			63
300	Huntingdon.....	Second Monday.....	1	8	3	1	1	131
301	Waverly	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...					1	36
302	Mechanicsburg.....	First Monday.....	2	3		2	1	107
303	Titusville	Second and 4th Tuesday...	2	2	17	4		146
304	Albion.....	First and Third Tuesday...			3		1	45
305	Hawley.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...		4			1	64
306	Troy.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M. and 2 weeks after.....	2	8		3		153

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	Admitted.	Initiated.	Suspended and Expelled.	Resigned.	Died.	Total.
307	Womelsdorf	First Thursday		2		3	1	80
308	Fort Washington.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M..		5		1		70
309	Downingtown.....	Friday on or before F. M..		2	3	1		56
310	Trappe	Saturday on or bef. F. M..		1				65
311	Mount Bethel.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1	7		2		45
312	Ebensburg.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	1	2				50
313	Indiana.....	Second Tuesday.....		1		2	1	57
314	Clearfield.....	Monday on or bef. F. M...	1	4	5	2	2	55
315	Shippensburg	Second Friday.....		1				32
316	Franklin	First Monday.....	1	2		2	1	103
317	Wellsboro'.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	3	6		2	1	72
318	Allegheny City.....	First Tuesday.....	5	8	1	6	3	198
319	New Bloomfield.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.		4				56
320	Bedford.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.	4	3	8	1		67
321	East Liberty.....	Third Tuesday.....	1	7			1	105
322	West Chester.....	Monday on or bef. F. M...	1	4	1		2	81
323	Scranton.....	First Tuesday.....	2	8				134
324	Mifflintown.....	Second Thursday.....	5	6		1	1	51
325	Stroudsburg.....	Monday on or bef. F. M ..		4		1	2	113
326	Trexlertown.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	5	7	1		1	72
327	Hazleton.....	Monday on or bef. F. M...	1	9	10	2	1	132
328	Jackson.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.		3	2	1	1	49
330	Hamlington	Monday on or bef. F. M...	1	5	1	4	1	64
331	Ligonier	Friday on or before F. M.		2	1			19
332	Plymouth.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	1	2				59
333	Allentown.....	Friday on or before F. M.		2	1	2	4	107
334	Bradford.....	Third Monday.....	8	11		2	2	217
335	Montoursville.....	Wednesday before F. M...		4	2	2	2	44
336	Gettysburg	2d Thurs. of each mo. from Ap. to Sep. inc. & 2d & 4th Thurs. of all oth. mos.....	2	4	5	1	1	64
337	Monongahela City...	First Tues. on or af. F. M.	2	6		1	2	113
338	Great Bend.....	Tuesday on or before F. M. and 2 weeks afterward...		8	3			83
339	Hyde Park.....	First Monday.....		7				137
340	Green Tree.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.		1	3	1	1	113
341	Factoryville.....	Monday on or bef. F. M...	2	5				50
342	Coudersport.....	Second & 4th Wednesday.	2	10		8	2	105
343	Cochranville.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...		3	1		1	106
344	Milford.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.		3	2			53
345	Scranton	Second Monday.....		3		2	1	92
346	Connellsville	Third Monday.....	2	7	2	2		87
347	Girard	First Wednesday.....	1					58
348	Hanover.....	Second and 4th Tuesday...		5				31
349	Catawissa.....	Tuesday before F. M.....	1	2		2	2	80
350	Blossburg.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	3	1				68
351	Knoxville.	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.		1				25
352	Chester	First Thursday af. F. M...		12				124
353	Oxford.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.		6			1	78
354	Shickshinny.....	Monday on or bef. F. M...		3	1	2		51

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	Admitted.	Initiated.	Suspended and Expelled.	Resigned.	Died.	Total.
355	Blairsville	Second Thursday.....		2	2	1	1	54
357	Mahanoy City.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1			1		82
358	Somerset	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	2	8		3	1	88
359	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Thursday.....		6	1		3	122
360	Susquehanna Depot..	First Friday.....		5	3	2	1	111
361	Newville.....	Second Thursday.....		1	1			46
362	Erie.....	First Friday.....	1	11				119
363	Oil City.....	First and Third Friday....	3	3	4		2	125
364	Millersburg.....	First Friday.....		2			1	55
365	Corry.....	First Tuesday.....	1	3		1	1	98
366	Union City.....	First Friday.....	6	1	5	1		50
367	Reading	Third Thursday.....			1			74
368	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday.....	2	5		2	1	99
369	"	Third Thursday.....	1	3	3	1	1	166
370	Mifflinburg	Monday on or bef. F. M...	2	5			3	32
371	Thompsontown	Monday on or bef. F. M...	1				1	37
372	Spartansburg.....	First Monday.....		1	1		2	27
373	Tioga.....	Thursday before F. M. and 2 weeks afterward.....	2	1		3	1	22
374	Allegheny City.....	First Thursday.....	4	4			2	126
375	McKeesport.....	Second Tuesday.....		6		1	1	92
376	McVeytown.....	Tuesday on or after F. M.		1				30
377	Kutztown.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M..	1	4	7			96
378	Mount Carmel.....	Thursday before F. M.....		1				36
379	Ridgway	Second and 4th Tuesday...	1	4	13	2		105
380	Philadelphia.....	First Tuesday.....		2	1			67
381	Newport.....	Tuesday on or after F. M.				1		37
382	Emporium.....	Second Wednesday.....	2		2	1		71
383	Coatesville.....	Tuesday on or after F. M..		2	2			70
384	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday	2	6	1		1	101
385	"	First Thursday.....	4	12			3	155
386	"	Third Wednesday.....	6	6	10	1	5	264
387	Dushore	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1	5			2	47
388	Smethport	Second & 4th Wednesday.	1	4	1		4	62
389	West Middlesex.....	First and Third Monday...	1	5	3	1		24
390	Pittsburgh.....	Second Wednesday.....	2	8	2	1	3	145
391	Phillipsburg	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1	1		1	1	73
392	Erie.....	Second Tuesday.....	2	5		1	1	149
393	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	3	4	8	1		180
395	Kingston	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.		6	1			87
396	Easton	Second Tuesday.....	1	3	3	1	1	115
397	Williamsport.....	First Tuesday.....	2	2			1	77
398	Marietta.....	Monday on or bef. F. M...	2	2	3	1		59
399	North East.....	First and 3d Wednesday...				3	1	81
400	Jenkintown.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...		2	7		1	86
401	Watson town.....	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.	2	5	4		2	96
402	Philadelphia.....	First Friday.....	2	6	2	3	4	177
403	Clarksville.....	Monday after F. M.....						11
404	Northumberland	Monday on or bef. F. M...	1	1	2	1		40
405	Honey Brook.....	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.		3		1	1	32

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	Admitted.	Initiated.	Suspended and Expelled.	Resigned.	Died.	Total.
406	Hamburg.....	Second Wednesday.....		3				59
408	Meadville.....	First Monday.....		1				48
409	Pine Grove.....	First Monday.....		2				53
410	Hatboro'	Wednesday on or bef.F.M.					1	59
411	Darlington	Friday on or before F. M.		1				30
412	Tidioute.....	Second Tuesday.....		3		2		66
413	Bath	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		2	5	2		42
414	Elysburg	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		1	1			33
415	Canton	Tuesday on or bef. F. M. and 2 weeks after.....	1	3	1	1	1	83
416	Edinboro'.....	Second and 4th Tuesday...		5				50
417	Christiana.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		5				66
418	Rome.....	Second and 4th Saturday..		6				41
419	Philadelphia.....	Second Tuesday.....		16	3		10	278
420	Conshohocken.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...		1	2			85
421	Osceola	Saturday on or bef. F. M..		7				26
423	Shrewsbury.....	Second Tuesday.....		3	1			39
424	Jamestown	First and Third Friday....		3		5		64
425	Waterford.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M..		1			2	65
426	Cressona	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		3				54
427	Newtown, Bucks Co.	Wednesday on or bef.F.M.		5			1	79
428	Smithfield.....	Friday on or before F. M. and 2 weeks afterward...					1	46
429	Harmony.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		1	3		1	26
430	Allegheny City.....	Second Thursday		7	1	3	2	132
431	Saltsburg.....	First Tuesday.....	4	1	1			28
432	Philadelphia.....	Second Thursday.....	1	4	6	3	2	124
433	New Castle.....	Third Tuesday.....	2	7	5	1	2	123
434	Sandy Lake.....	Fourth Thursday.....	3	4	2	1		52
435	Reading	First Friday.....		5	1	1		148
436	Philadelphia.....	Second Tuesday.....	4	10		1	2	152
437	Apollo	Second Tuesday.....		4				45
438	Nicholson.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M..	1			1	1	37
440	Slatington.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1	2				34
441	Philadelphia.....	Third Friday.....		3		1	3	206
442	Wilkes-Barre	Wednesday on or af. F.M.	1	2		1	2	69
443	Green Castle.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.				1		23
444	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday.....	2	5	8	2	4	82
446	Upper Uwchlan.....	Monday before F. M.....	1	3				41
448	Sharpsburg.....	Second Thursday.....	2	3	1	2		75
449	Philadelphia.....	Second Thursday.....		3		1	1	131
450	"	Fourth Wednesday.....		4	3		1	128
451	York.....	First Monday.....	1				1	38
453	Philadelphia.....	Third Thursday.....		5	4	1	3	110
454	Burgettstown.....	Second and 4th Friday....	1			2	1	27
455	Erie.....	Third Tuesday.....	1	13				108
456	Philadelphia.....	Second Tuesday.....	1	2	5		4	129
457	Beaver.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1				1	51
458	Marysville	Fourth Tuesday.....	1	1				53
459	Masontown.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1			1		28

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	Admitted.	Initiated.	Suspended and Expelled.	Resigned.	Died.	Total.
460	Orangeville	Tuesday on or after F. M.		6				46
461	Coal Centre.....	Third Monday.....		1			1	42
462	Berwick.....	Friday on or after F. M...	2	2	8			68
463	Titusville.....	First and Third Monday...	1	2	5	6	1	73
464	Harrisburg.....	Third Thursday.....	1	7	1	1		114
465	York Springs.....	Third Monday.....		2	2	2	1	25
466	Olyphant.....	Friday on or before F. M.	3	2	3		1	40
467	White Haven.....	Second and 4th Monday...		7	1		1	71
468	Wyoming.....	Friday on or before F. M.		5				35
469	Coopersburg.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...		3		1	4	44
470	Philadelphia.....	Fourth Thursday.....		1	3	1	1	66
471	LeRaysville.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M..	1	3				55
472	Pleasant Mount.....	Saturday on or bef. F. M..						22
473	Cambridge.....	Second and 4th Friday.....	1	3	8	1		62
474	Ashley.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	3	2	2	7		72
475	Kennett Square.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		1	1	1		91
476	Lancaster.....	First Monday.....		2	1			85
477	Westfield.. ..	Saturday on or bef. F. M..	2	11	2	1	1	94
478	Beaver Falls.....	Second and 4th Monday...	2	7	1		1	61
479	Morgantown.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.						26
480	Curwensville.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	3	6		2		80
481	Philadelphia.....	First Thursday.....	3	19	3	2	6	295
482	"	First Tuesday.....	1	9	4			144
483	Rouseville.. ..	First and 3d Wednesday...		1		4		55
484	Pittsburgh.....	Second Monday.....	2	16	3	2	5	177
485	Smith's Ferry.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.						38
486	Middletown	Monday on or bef. F. M...	1	6	2			57
487	Philadelphia.....	Third Monday.....	2	2	2		1	98
488	Independence	Thursday on or bef. F. M.						
490	Altoona.....	First Tuesday.....	4	8		1	2	104
491	Philadelphia.....	Third Wednesday.....		4	4			82
493	"	Second Monday.....		11	2	3	1	172
494	Tyrone	Third Monday.....	1	5	1	2		59
495	Renovo.....	First Tuesday.....		6		1		66
496	Safe Harbor.....	Friday on or before F. M..		1				38
498	Linesville.....	First and Third Tuesday...		1	1	1	1	35
499	West Pittston.....	Wednesday on or bef. F. M.	1	6	2			67
500	Philadelphia.. ..	Third Wednesday.....	2	13	4		5	166
501	Pleasantville.....	First and Third Monday...		1	1	3		49
502	Tarentum.....	Friday before F. M.....					1	24
503	Wrightsville.....	Third Monday.....		2				37
504	Moscow.....	Friday on or before F. M..		9				48
505	Port Allegany.....	First Tuesday.....	1	7		1		51
506	Philadelphia.....	Second Thursday.....	1	6	2		2	98
507	New Milford.....	Second Wednesday.....		5	5	1		32
508	Pittsburgh.....	First Friday.....	3	18		1		145
509	"	Second Friday.....		4			3	73
510	Braddock's Field....	Third Tuesday.....	2	4				79
511	Shenandoah.....	Wednesday before F. M...				1		72
512	Quakertown.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1		1	2		53
513	Temperanceville.....	First Tuesday.. ..		1	1	1	1	53

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	TIME OF MEETING.	Admitted.	Initiated.	Suspended and Expelled.	Resigned.	Died.	Total.
514	New Freeport.....	Friday before F. M.....		2		3		38
515	Osceola Mills.....	Second Monday.....	1	12	3			55
516	Danville.....	Second Tuesday.....		5		1		59
517	Sharpsville.....	First and Third Monday..		1	5	2		25
518	Greensburg.....	Third Tuesday.....	1	4			1	68
519	Philadelphia.....	Third Thursday.....		12	1		1	131
520	St. Petersburg.....	First Thursday.....	1	3	4	2		53
521	Parker City.....	First Monday.....		4		5		66
522	New Bethlehem.....	First Wednesday.....		1				29
523	Jermyn.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...		3		2		29
524	Everett Borough.....	Friday on or before F. M.		7		2	1	50
525	Allegheny City.....	Third Monday.....	1	8			2	120
526	Elizabeth.....	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.	2	6			1	49
527	Philadelphia.....	Second Friday.....		7	3	4	2	131
528	"	Second Tuesday.....		3		2		79
529	"	First Thursday.....	2	3	1	2		130
530	Bellevue.....	Third Monday.....	1					36
531	Dallas.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.	1	3	3			25
532	Driftwood.....	Friday on or before F. M..		6				66
533	Wattsburg.....	First and Third Saturday.	2	3		5		30
534	Punxsutawney..	First Tuesday.....	1	2			1	46
535	Pittsburgh.....	Fourth Friday.....	1	1			1	46
536	Reynoldsville.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	1	5	3		1	40
537	Centre Hall.....	Monday on or before F.M.		6	1			45
538	Johnstown.....	Fourth Monday.....		8				76
539	Woodbury.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.				2	1	15
540	Petrolia.....	Wednesday on or bef. F.M.		2	11	1	1	65
541	Nanticoke.....	First Thursday		4			1	48
542	Waymart.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...		2		2		33
543	Fernwood.....	Third Tuesday.....		6	5	1	1	88
544	Mansfield.....	First and Third Monday..	3	1	3	1		63
545	New London.....	Monday on or before F.M.						43
546	Pittsburgh.....	First Thursday.....		7	1		3	77
547	Sugar Grove.....	Friday on or before F. M.	1	2	1	2		64
548	Verona.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...	1	5	1	1	1	30
549	Reading.....	Fourth Thursday.....		4				41
550	Edenburg.....	First Tuesday.....	4	2	2	3	1	44
551	Mount Joy.....	Friday on or before F. M..	1	5	1			51
552	Emlenton.....	Second and 4th Monday...		5		2		50
553	Spring City.....	Thursday on or bef. F. M.		4		1	1	70
554	Meyersdale	Monday on or before F.M.	1	7				47
555	Duke Centre.....	Tuesday of each week.....	2	8		6		127
556	Ulysses.....	First and 3d Wednesday..	1	3				40
557	Tionesta.....	First and Third Monday..		8				23
558	Lansdale.....	Tuesday on or bef. F. M...		1				25
559	DuBois	First and Third Thursday.	1	4				40
560	Eldred.....	Wednesday of each week..	1	13				53
561	Allentown.....	First Thursday.....		6		1		36
562	Scottdale.....	First and Third Thursday.		5		1		25
563	Hellertown.....	Friday on or before F. M.		6				28

Brother LOUIS WAGNER offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted :

Resolved, That the authority given to the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, at the Quarterly Communication in June last, to grant Certificates of good Masonic standing to members of Dushore Lodge, No. 387 (whose Warrant was revoked at said Communication), can be exercised without previous action of this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Brother CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA, Senior Grand Warden, brought to the attention of, and presented to, the Grand Lodge an exact copy of the following original, important, and deeply interesting Masonic document connected with the early history of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania. He stated that it is the oldest original Masonic Lodge report in America, and that the original is now in the possession of GEORGE T. INGHAM, Esq., of Atlantic City, New Jersey, who inherited it among a number of old papers of DAVID HALL, for many years the partner in the printing business of Brother BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. The document is the report of the Committee of St. John's Lodge, Philadelphia, on the state of the Lodge, and unanimously recommended the adoption of certain By-Laws. It is signed by eleven Brethren, all of whose names appear in Liber B as members of St. John's Lodge. The document appears to be throughout in the handwriting of Brother BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. It reads as follows :

Gentlemen of the Lodge

The Committee you have been pleased to appoint to consider of the present State of the Lodge, and of the properest Methods to improve it, in obedience to your commands have met, and,

after much and mature Deliberation, have come to the following Resolutions:—

1. That since the excellent Science of Geometry and Architecture is so much recommended in our ancient Constitutions, Masonry being first instituted with this Design, among others, to distinguish the true and skilful Architect from unskilful Pretenders; total Ignorance of this Art is very unbecoming a Man who bears the worthy Name and Character of MASON; We therefore conclude, that it is the Duty of every Member to make himself, in some Measure, acquainted therewith, as he would honor the Society he belongs to, and conform to the Constitutions.

2. That every Member may have an Opportunity of so doing, the present Cash be laid out in the best Books of Architecture, suitable Mathematical Instruments, &c.

3. That since the present whole Stock is not too large for that purpose, every Member indebted to the Lodge pay what is from him respectively due on Monday night, the nineteenth Instant, that so the whole being ready by the 24th of June, may be sent away by the first Opportunity. And that every one not paying that Night, be suspended till he do pay: For without Care be taken that Rules are punctually observed, no Society can be long upheld in good Order and Regularity.

4. That since Love and Good Will are the best Cement of any Society, we endeavour to encrease it among ourselves by a kind and friendly conversation, so as to make us of ourselves desire to meet, but that all Compulsion, by fining any Person for not Meeting, be utterly taken away and abolished, Except only Persons in Office, and others when a Meeting is call'd upon Extraordinary Occasions.

5. That the use of the Balls be established in its full Force and Vigour; and that no new Member be admitted against the will of any present Member; because certainly more Regard ought to be had in this way to a Brother who is already a Mason, than to any Person who is not one, and we should never in such cases disoblige a Brother, to oblige a Stranger.

6. That any Member of this Lodge having a complaint against

any other Member, shall first apply himself to the Wardens, who shall bring the Cause before the Lodge, where it shall be consider'd and made up, if possible, before the Complainant be allow'd to make that Complaint publick to the World: the Offender against this Rule to be expell'd.

June 5, 1732.

The Members whose Names are underwritten, being a Majority, agree unanimously to the within Proposals of the Committee (except the fourth, which is cross'd out) and accordingly have hereunto set their hands.

WILL. PRINGLE
THOMAS BOUDE
B. FRANKLIN
XTOPHER THOMPSON
THOS. HARTT
DAVID PARRY
JOHN EMERSON
LAW^{co} REYNOLDS
JOHN HOBART
HENRY PRATT
SAM'L NICHOLAS.

[The above was copied, *verbatim et literatim*, by CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA, on August 26, 1885, from the original document (which is apparently in the handwriting of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN), now in the possession of GEORGE T. INGHAM, Esq., of the New Jersey bar, residing at Atlantic City, N. J. Mr. INGHAM is a descendant of DAVID HALL, who for many years was the partner of FRANKLIN in the printing and publishing business, and he possesses a number of the Franklin papers. Liber B of St. John's Lodge, Philadelphia, was owned and presented by him to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, where it now remains.

Certified this first day of September, A.D. 1885.

CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA,
*Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden of the
Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.]*

Grand Lodge closed in harmony at 8 o'clock 25 minutes P.M.

Michael Nisbet
Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, December 2, A.D. 1885, A.L. 5885.

PRESENT:

Bro. E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
" JOSEPH EICHBAUM . . .	<i>R. W. Deputy Grand Master.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . . .	<i>R. W. Senior Grand Warden.</i>
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA . . .	<i>R. W. Junior Grand Warden.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Secretary.</i>
" CHARLES H. KINGSTON . . .	<i>Deputy Grand Secretary.</i>
" DANIEL BRITTAIN . . .	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
" WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS . . .	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
" HENRY S. GETZ . . .	} <i>Grand Chaplains.</i>
" JAMES W. ROBINS, D.D. . . .	
" JOHN S. J. McCONNELL . . .	
" WILLIAM A. MORTON . . .	} <i>D. D. Grand Masters.</i>
" WILLIAM B. LAMBERTON . . .	
" JOHN G. BOBB . . .	
" ISAAC A. ELLIOTT . . .	
" FRANK P. HOUSEKEEPER . . .	
" THADDEUS S. ADLE . . .	
" HENRY A. TYSON . . .	
" BENJAMIN F. GILKESON . . .	
" ROBERT H. LERCH . . .	
" LAIRD H. BARBER . . .	
" SAMUEL L. FRENCH . . .	
" ASA B. STEVENS . . .	
" ELBERT P. JONES . . .	

Bro. DAVID C. AINEY . . .	}	<i>D. D. Grand Masters.</i>
" CHARLES E. RIGGS . . .		
" WILLIAM H. VERMILYEA . . .		
" FREDERICK H. KELLER . . .		
" EDGAR A. TENNIS . . .		
" ELIAS W. HALE . . .		
" CHARLES L. WHEELER . . .		
" CALEB C. THOMPSON . . .		
" JOHN J. WADSWORTH . . .		
" MYRON PARK DAVIS . . .		
" MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON . . .		
" WILLIAM B. MEREDITH . . .		
" GETER C. SHIDLE . . .		
" JAMES W. McDOWELL . . .		
" ANDREW J. COLBORN . . .	}	<i>Grand Stewards.</i>
" S. KINGSTON McCAY . . .		
" J. WESLEY SUPPLEE . . .	}	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
" GEORGE W. WOOD . . .		
" LOUIS M. CHASTEAU . . .	}	<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
" WILLIAM H. BELLOWES . . .		
" WILLIAM A. SINN . . .	}	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
" RICHARD VAUX . . .		
" ROBERT A. LAMBERTON . . .	}	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .		
" SAMUEL B. DICK . . .		
" CONRAD B. DAY . . .		
" RICHARD VAUX . . .	}	<i>R. W. Past Grand Masters.</i>
" ROBERT A. LAMBERTON . . .		
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .		
" RICHARD VAUX . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of New York, Illinois, Alabama, Texas, Min- nesota, Washington Territory, and Colon and Cuba.</i>
" ROBERT A. LAMBERTON . . .		
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .		
" RICHARD VAUX . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.</i>
" ROBERT A. LAMBERTON . . .		
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .		
" RICHARD VAUX . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of Canada and Louisiana.</i>
" ROBERT A. LAMBERTON . . .		
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .		
" RICHARD VAUX . . .	}	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of North Caro- lina.</i>
" ROBERT A. LAMBERTON . . .		
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .		
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .		

Bro. CONRAD B. DAY	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.</i>
" E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Idaho.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan.</i>
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.</i>
" MICHAEL ARNOLD	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas.</i>
" AUGUSTUS R. HALL	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.</i>
" CHARLES E. MEYER	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.</i>
" JOHN CURTIS	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Colorado.</i>
" WILLIAM B. HACKENBURG	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, etc.</i>
" JAMES W. ROBINS	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.</i>
" ROBERT P. DECHERT . . .	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Indian Terri- tory.</i>
" LOUIS WAGNER	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.</i>

Two hundred and ten Lodges represented.

Grand Lodge opened in ample form at 10 o'clock and 20 minutes A.M.

A Communication was received and read from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, and Tucker Lodge, No. 297, of Galveston, Texas, asking relief for the Masonic Brethren, their widows and orphans, of that city, from the effects of loss by fire on the 13th of November, 1885, with the authorization of Brother Z. E. COOMBS, Right Wor-

shipful Deputy Grand Master, acting as Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Texas, when, on motion of Past Grand Master Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS, seconded by Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Brother RICHARD VAUX with a touching appeal, it was

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars be donated.

This being the time designated by the Ahiman Rezon for the election of Officers and Trustees to serve the ensuing Masonic year, commencing on St. John's Day next, the Right Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to appoint tellers, who having reported, the Right Worshipful Grand Master declared the following Brethren duly elected:

R. W. Grand Master.

Brother E. COPPÉE MITCHELL.

R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

Brother JOSEPH EICHBAUM.

R. W. Senior Grand Warden.

Brother CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA.

R. W. Junior Grand Warden.

Brother J. SIMPSON AFRICA.

R. W. Grand Treasurer.

Brother THOMAS R. PATTON.

R. W. Grand Secretary.

Brother MICHAEL NISBET.

Trustees Girard Bequest.

Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS.

“ CHARLES M. PREVOST.

“ JOHN L. THOMSON.

“ ALEXANDER H. MORGAN.

“ AZARIAH W. HOOPES.

Trustees Grand Lodge Charity Fund.

Brother JACOB LAUDENSLAGER.

“ DANIEL BRITTAIN.

“ EDWARD STRICKLAND.

“ ALPHONSO C. IRELAND.

“ DANIEL M. FOX.

An Edict was read from Brother ALEXANDER T. DARRAH, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the State of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons, commanding all Brethren of that Grand Lodge to hold no Masonic intercourse with any member or members of any Lodge existing in the Province of Quebec enrolled on the register of any foreign Grand Lodge other than that of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

A Communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Mexico asking recognition.

Referred to Committee on Correspondence.

The Grand Secretary reported that Lodge No. 272, reported as suspended for want of returns, have since made their returns, and the Warrant is revived by Section 18, Article XVII., of the Ahiman Rezon.

A Communication was received from Brothers ———, ——— ———, as to the action of Lodge No. 75 in the case of ——— ———, who was tried in that Lodge for “scandalous and wicked libel,” published in his paper called “The Messenger.” The report of a majority of the Committee found said ——— ——— not guilty on the first specification and guilty of the other two specifications, and recommended his suspension. The Lodge adopted the resolution of the Committee on its findings on the several specifications unanimously, but refused to suspend him. The above Brethren now ask, “What is the present standing of ——— ——— in the Lodge and in the Fraternity?”

Brother ——— ——— moved that the matter be referred to the Committee on Appeals. Brother ——— ——— moved to amend by making it to expel ——— ——— from membership in Lodge No. 75, and from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry. The amendment was adopted. The question was taken on the motion as amended, when it was adopted.

A Communication was received from Lodge No. 501 asking Grand Lodge for a new Warrant, as the Warrant of their Lodge had been lost by fire or mislaid.

On motion, referred to Grand Officers, with power to act.

The Grand Lodge Charity Fund made the following report, which was ordered to be received and filed :

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free and Accepted Masons :

The Trustees of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund respectfully submit their receipts and payments for the fiscal year ending November 15, 1885, as follows :

Balance on hand November 15, 1884, as per report
of that date, viz.: \$1,005.87

1885.

March 2. Received interest on \$71,500 Masonic
Loan 1,787.50

Sept. 1. Received interest on \$71,500 Masonic
Loan 1,787.50

Nov. 14. Received interest on Deposits 22.87

Total \$4,603.74

Jan. 6. Paid for use of Almoners . \$900.00

March 2. " " " . 200.00

April 7. " " " . 500.00

July 7. " " " . 500.00

July 7. Paid for use of carriage for
funeral of Brother SAMUEL
R. BRICK 4.00

Oct. 6. Paid for use of Almoners . 1000.00

\$3,104.00

Leaving balance on hand . \$1,499.74

The investments have not been changed during the
year, remaining the same as per last report, namely,
Certificates of Masonic Temple Redemption Loan
amounting to \$71,500.00

Respectfully submitted,

JACOB LAUDENSLAGER,
DANIEL BRITTAIN,
EDWARD STRICKLAND,
ALPHONSO C. IRELAND,
DANIEL M. FOX.

PHILADELPHIA, November 17, 1885.

The Trustees of the Girard Bequest made the following report, when, on motion, the resolution thereto attached was adopted :

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania :

The Trustees of the Girard Bequest respectfully report that they have received during the fiscal year ending November 15, 1885 :

From Interest on Investments	\$3162.00
“ “ “ Deposits	7.89
	<hr/>
	\$3169.89
To which add balance November 15, 1884, per Report of Finance Committee	730.64
	<hr/>
	\$3900.53

They have paid during the same period Orders for the use of the Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund	\$3000.00
	<hr/>

Leaving a balance November 15, 1885, of . \$900.53
on deposit in the Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives
and Granting Annuities.

Their accounts with the securities of the Trust have been
examined by the Finance Committee and found correct.

No change has been made in the investments, and at the close
of the fiscal year, November 15, 1885, they stood as follows :

Masonic Temple Redemption Loan, 5 per cent.	\$51,000.00
Lehigh Coal and Navg. Co.'s Gold Loan, 6 per cent.	8,000.00
West. Penna. R. R. (Pittsburgh Branch) Bonds, 6 per cent.	1,200.00
10 shares Continental Pass. Railway Stock, 6 per cent.	1,000.00
	<hr/>
Making a total at par value of	\$61,200.00

The securities are in the hands of the Chairman, and are deposited in his box at the Fidelity Company.

The Trustees respectfully ask the adoption of the following resolution :

“ *Resolved*, That the sum of three thousand dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to the use of the Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund for the year ending December, 1886, to be drawn for in the usual manner.”

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
C. M. PREVOST,
A. W. HOOPEs,
JOHN L. THOMSON,
A. H. MORGAN,

Trustees.

December 2, 1885.

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund made the following report, which was ordered to be entered and filed :

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania :

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund respectfully present their Twelfth Annual Report :

The balance on hand November 15, 1884, as appears
by the Eleventh Annual Report, presented to
Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication,
December 3, 1884, was \$10,728.91
They have since received :
Cash from Grand Treasurer
on account of appropriation
for 1884 \$12,000.00
Interest on Masonic Temple
Redemption Loan : . \$1340.00
Interest on West Penna. R.
R., 6's 2005.00

Interest on Pittsburgh Ave. Bonds	395.00	
Interest on Phila. and Reading Scrip, 6's	594.00	
Interest on Phila. and Reading Improvement, 6's	600.00	
Interest on Wm. M. Singerly's Mortgage on Old Masonic Hall	8750.00	
Interest on D. Young's Mort- gage on 215 and 217 N. Third Street	540.00	
Interest on Robt. Steel's Mort- gage Limekiln Road prop- erty	1000.00	
Interest on E. W. Kohl's Mortgage on 1747 N. Fif- teenth Street	129.17	
Interest on Deposits	128.42	
	<hr/>	\$15,481.59
		<hr/>
		\$27,481.59
		<hr/>
Making a total of		\$38,210.50
And there has been paid :		
1884.		
Nov. 25. For \$10,000.00 Phila. and Read- ing R. R. Improvement, 6's, @ 93 $\frac{1}{2}$		\$9350.00
1885.		
April 7. For \$5000.00 Pittsburgh Ave., 5's, @ par and accrued interest.	5007.16	
June 5. For Mortgage of E. W. Kohl on 1747 N. Fifteenth Street (5 per cent.), @ par	6000.00	
Nov. 10. For \$1000.00 Masonic Temple Redemption Loan @ 108	1080.00	
	<hr/>	
Making a total paid for investments		\$21,437.16

Rent of safe in Fidelity Company . . .	25.00
Balance November 15, 1885, on deposit in Fidelity Company @ 2 per cent. . . .	16,748.34
	<hr/>
	\$38,210.50

Their accounts to the close of the fiscal year, November 15, 1885, with the securities of the Fund have been examined by the Finance Committee and found correct.

The Fund at the close of the fiscal year, November 15, 1885, stood as follows :

Masonic Temple Redemption Loan, 5's, interest 1st March and September	\$27,800.00
Pittsburgh Ave. Bonds (7's reduced to), 5's, interest 1st January, April, July, and October	9500.00
West Penna. R. R. Bonds, 6's, interest 1st April and October	15,500.00
West Penna. R. R. and Shenango Connecting R. R., 6's, interest 1st January and July	20,000.00
Phila. and Reading General Mortgage Scrip, 6's, interest 1st January and July	9900.00
Phila. and Reading Improvement Bonds, 6's, in- terest 1st April and October	10,000.00

Bonds and Mortgages as follows :

William M. Singerly, on Old Ma- sonic Hall, Chestnut Street, five years from September 26, 1882, in- terest 5 per cent., 26th March and September	\$175,000.00
Daniel Young, on 215 and 217 North Third Street, three years from March 29, 1883, interest $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 29th March and September	12,000.00
Robert Steel, on premises Limekiln Turnpike Road, five years from May 25, 1883, interest 5 per cent., 25th May and November	20,000.00

E. W. Kohl and wife, on No. 1747

North Fifteenth Street, five years

from May 11, 1885, interest 5 per

cent., 11th May and November . 6,000.00

----- \$213,000.00

Total investments \$305,700.00

Cash 16,748.34

Making in all \$322,448.34

and showing an increase over the amount at the close of the preceding fiscal year, November 14, 1884, of \$28,019.43.

There have been no changes in the funds and investments during the intervening period, except that November 28 the six months' interest, due November 25, on Mortgage of Robert Steel, was paid, \$500.00, and the same day was received from the Grand Treasurer balance of appropriation for 1884, \$3000.00, making the cash now in hands of the Commissioners \$20,248.34. Of this amount, \$8500.00 is expected to be invested in an excellent Mortgage at five per cent. as soon as the papers are completed, and the balance will be invested at the earliest practicable opportunity.

The Commissioners regret to report that the July interest on the Bonds of the West Penna. and Shenango Connecting R. R. has not been paid, but it is believed that arrangements will be made for the resumption of the payment of interest regularly, and that the principal and interest of the investment are abundantly secured.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Commissioners.

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,

President.

December 2, 1885.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, when, on motion, the recommendations and the resolution thereto attached were adopted:

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free and Accepted Masons :

The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the accounts of the "Commissioners of the Sinking Fund," "Trustees Grand Lodge Charity Fund," "Trustees of Stephen Girard Charity Fund," "Committee on Temple," and "Committee on Library," and found them correct and agreeing with their vouchers; also the securities held by each, and found them correct. Their transactions will be fully set out in their several Reports to the Grand Lodge.

They also examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and found them correct, and show as follows :

The accounts of the Grand Secretary show :

RECEIPTS.

Masonic Rents	\$35,171.60
Dues	47,698.27
Initiations	13,533.00
Ten per cents.	2,900.00
Dispensations	7,680.00
Ahiman Rezons	194.00
Grand Lodge Certificates	80.00
Attests	24.00
Interest on Deposit of Grand Treasurer .	\$295.34
" " Grand Secretary .	45.08
	<hr/> 340.42
Warrant	200.00
Balance November 15, 1884	11,011.97
	<hr/>
	\$118,833.26

PAYMENTS.

Committee on Temple	\$21,860.00
Sinking Fund	12,000.00
Interest due March 1, 1885 .	\$31,987.50
Interest due September 1, 1885	31,987.50
	<hr/> 63,975.00

Expenses Grand Master .		\$2000.00	
Expenses District Deputy Grand Masters		1992.19	
Expenses Grand Lodge :			
Printing Proceedings for the year 1884	\$1123.80		
Grand Secretary's Office, Books, Stationery, Postage, Portage, and Expressage on Proceedings Grand Lodge, Printing No- tices, Circulars, Edicts, Grand Lodge Reports, Grand Lodge Returns, Members of Grand Lodge, En- velopes, etc.	353.78		
Engrossing Resolution to Past Grand Master CONRAD B. DAY	25.00		
For Repairing Trunk, Clothing, Jewels, etc., of Grand Lodge, and Expenses of Grand Tyler	38.75		
Expenses as Senior Grand Warden for 1884	156.50		
	<hr/>	\$1697.83	
Committee on Library .		350.00	
Warrant		200.00	
Salaries Grand Officers		5450.00	
		<hr/>	\$109,525.02
Balance November 15, 1885			\$9,308.24

The accounts of the Grand Secretary for the sale of Dispensations show :

Dispensations.

Pass and Raise	\$60.00
Raise	90.00
Pass to Chair	2050.00
	<hr/>
	\$2200.00
Ahiman Rezons	194.00
Grand Lodge Certificates	80.00
Attests	24.00
	<hr/>
	\$2498.00

Which amount has been paid to the Grand Treasurer.

The account of the Grand Secretary for the payment of six per cent. Masonic Redemption Loan shows a balance of Fifty Dollars on the 15th day of November, 1885, uncalled for, and the Interest due on said Loan uncalled for at same date of Twenty-nine $\frac{47}{100}$ Dollars.

The account of the Grand Secretary for the payment of Interest on five per cent. Loan shows a balance of \$772 $\frac{50}{100}$ due and uncalled for.

We have examined the transfer of Bonds with the Bond Ledger and found them correct.

Your Committee present the following estimated receipts and expenditures for the year 1886 :

RECEIPTS.

Dues	\$43,000.00
Initiations	10,000.00
Ten per cents.	2,000.00
Masonic Rents	35,000.00
Dispensations	7,250.00
Dues unpaid by Lodges	10,465.66
Rents due by bodies meeting in the Temple	13,547.40
Cash Balance November 15, 1885	9,308.24
	<hr/>
	\$130,571.30

PAYMENTS.

Interest	\$63,975.00
Temple Committee	19,843.00
Expenses Grand Lodge:	
Printing Proceedings, etc.	1,500.00
Books, Stationery, Printing, Postage, etc., for Grand Master and Grand Secretary's Office	1,000.00
Due to Lodges	257.53
Committee on Library	350.00
Balance due Sinking Fund on Ac- count of Appropriation, 1884	3,000.00
Balance due Sinking Fund on Ac- count of Appropriation, 1885	15,000.00
Balance due Sinking Fund on Ac- count of Appropriation, 1886	15,000.00
Transient Relief	100.00
Balance due on 6 per cent. Loan	50.00
Grand Master	2,000.00
District Deputy Grand Masters	2,000.00
Salaries of Grand Officers	5,450.00
	<hr/> \$129,525.53
Balance November 15, 1886	1045.77

In reference to the application made by Representative of Lodge No. 71 for a reduction of rents, we have only to say, that in consequence of the revenues of the Grand Lodge from all sources being barely sufficient to meet its current expenses, we cannot recommend any further reduction of rents.

Your Committee deem it important that all the securities of the Grand Lodge, held by any of its Committees or Trustees, should be placed in some safe depository.

The assets of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund, now amounting to \$71,500.00, are now, and have been, deposited in the fire-

proof safe in the Grand Secretary's office, and necessarily imposes a care and responsibility on him (the Grand Secretary) who should not be incumbered with it. While this vault and safe may be secure for the Archives of the Grand Lodge against fire, we regard it unsafe as a depository of the assets of the Charity Fund.

We recommend that the Trustees of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund be, and are hereby authorized, to rent a box in the Fidelity Safe Deposit and Trust Company for the better security of their assets.

We also invite your attention to another subject of much importance to your Grand Body.

When the property was purchased on which this Temple is erected, it was deemed best to place the title in the then Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brother RICHARD VAUX, and he thereupon executed a declaration of trust in favor of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons in Pennsylvania, to be conveyed at any time by him as directed by Grand Lodge. This declaration of trust is not recorded.

Your Committee, with the concurrence of Brother VAUX, now recommend that the title to the Masonic Temple should be vested in Trustees to be selected by the Grand Lodge, under an express trust to hold for the Grand Lodge, with power in Grand Lodge to fill vacancies in said trust from time to time as such vacancies may occur.

We therefore respectfully recommend that Past Master Brother RICHARD VAUX be requested and authorized to convey the title to the Masonic Temple to five Brothers, to be selected by the Grand Lodge, who, and their successors, shall hold the same in trust for the Grand Lodge with the powers above mentioned, and with directions to convey the same at any time as may be directed by the Grand Lodge.

We offer the following resolution :

“Resolved, The Right Worshipful Grand Master be, and he is hereby authorized and requested to draw his warrant on the

Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer for the several appropriations for the year 1886.”

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

JOHN C. YEAGER,
JAMES HERDMAN,
GEORGE E. WAGNER,
E. P. KINGSBURY,
JOHN SLINGLUFF.

On motion of Brother MICHAEL ARNOLD, it was

“*Resolved*, That Brothers RICHARD VAUX, ROBERT A. LAMBERTON, E. COPPÉE MITCHELL, JOHN C. YEAGER, and JAMES HERDMAN be the Trustees of the title to the Masonic Temple, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of Finance, approved at this Communication of the Grand Lodge.”

On motion of Deputy Grand Master Brother JOSEPH EICHBAUM, it was

“*Resolved*, That the Committee on By-Laws be directed to prepare a revised copy of the ‘Form for By-Laws,’ the said form to be in conformity with the existing rules and customs of the Grand Lodge, and to be submitted to the Grand Lodge for its approval at the Quarterly Communication in March next.”

The Committee on Temple made the following report, when, on motion, the resolution thereto attached was adopted :

PHILADELPHIA, December 2, 1885.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania:

BRETHREN,—The Committee on Temple respectfully report that they have expended for the quarter ending November 15 ult., as follows :

Wages	\$1705.07
Gas	491.36
Ice	16.74
Fuel	105.00
Contingent Expenses, viz.:	
Painting	\$909.78
Leather for Chairs, etc.	158.40
Electric Alarms	101.50
Cementing Roof and Repairs	356.90
Stationery, Printing, etc.	25.48
Account of Elevator, Inspection, etc.	20.00
Repairs to Boilers and Radiators	359.84
Gas-Fixtures and Repairs	55.00
Hardware, Tools, etc.	223.11
Cleaning Lamps, etc.	26.00
Upholstering	75.00
Pipes, Valves, Oil, Lumber	35.91
Brushes, Books, Rope	100.00
Machinery, Locks, Wire	210.00
	<hr/>
	\$2656.92
	<hr/>
	\$4,975.09
And for the year :	
Employés	\$6,764.13
Gas	2,948.33
Ice	172.83
Fuel	1,841.80
Water Rent	185.00
Ventilation	2,000.00
Contingent Expenses	6,116.76
	<hr/>
Total	\$20,028.85

The Committee have recommended to the Committee on Finance an appropriation of \$1000 for painting the work inside this building during the coming year, which has been granted in addition to the requirements of the building.

“*Resolved*, That the expenditures made by the Committee on Temple for the past year, as per reports from time to time, be approved.”

All of which is fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM J. KELLY,
SAMUEL W. WRAY,
HIBBERT P. JOHN,
GODFREY KEEBLER,
EDWARD MATTHEWS.

The Committee on Library made the following report, which was ordered to be entered and filed:

PHILADELPHIA, December 3, 1885.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania:

BRETHREN,—The Committee on Library beg leave to present the following report of their doings during the present year:

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand last Report, November 15, 1884	\$38.93
Received from Grand Lodge	350.00
“ Memorial Volume sales	17.00
“ sale of Reprints	65.00
Total	<u>\$470.93</u>

PAYMENTS.

Paid WILLIAM SHINN, for care of Library	\$141.00
Newspapers and Magazines	79.58
Purchase of Books	41.65
Postage and Expressage and Duties	17.84
Account Printing Reprint of Proceedings	102.66
Wm. H. Hoskins, Printing and Binding	6.60
Insurance, Sheets of Memorial Volumes	7.50
	<u>396.83</u>

November 14, 1885, balance on hand for present year \$74.10

A list of donations to Library is hereto annexed. We have received from Right Worshipful Grand Secretary NISBET the attested copy of the By-Laws of St. John's Lodge, established in the city of Philadelphia in 1730, which adds further and incontestable proof of the city of Philadelphia being the Premier Masonic city in the United States, and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania being the oldest in America.

Hermann Lodge, No. 125, have deposited through the Worshipful Master the Trowel used by the Right Worshipful Grand Master at the laying of the foundation-stone of the Schiller Monument in Fairmount Park on November 10, 1885. We have placed the Trowel in a conspicuous place in one of the cases in the Library. The Masonic Veterans of Pennsylvania have also placed in the Library for preservation, subject to their orders, their Loving Cup of Remembrance.

We are prepared to proceed with the Reprint of the Proceedings, and will do so as soon as the subscribers have paid their subscriptions and encouraged the Committee in their labors.

There is now due by subscribers the following amounts :

Part	I.	.	.	.	.	.	\$16.00
"	II.	.	.	.	.	.	31.00
"	III.	.	.	.	.	.	79.00
"	IV.	.	.	.	.	.	173.00
Making a total of . . .							<hr/> \$299.00

which, if paid, would more than pay amount due printers and leave a surplus for the uses of the Committee.

That the Grand Lodge may know the encouragement the Committee has received from the 35,000 Masons in Pennsylvania, we would say we have 437 subscribers to the Reprint.

The Committee have for a long time had under consideration the rearranging of the Library, making it more accessible to the members, moving the cases, and placing them around the walls, and thus give ample accommodation for the constantly increasing donations and purchases of books and Masonic relics.

The changes we contemplate would cost some \$400 or \$500, which we hope ere long to receive from subscriptions to the several publications issued by the Committee and authorized by you.

Fraternally submitted,

CHARLES E. MEYER,
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,
J. FRANK KNIGHT,
E. S. WYCKOFF,
JOHN L. YOUNG,
H. S. GOODWIN,
WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS.

LIST OF PERSONS WHO MADE DONATIONS TO MASONIC LIBRARY
OF GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

E. Coppée Mitchell, R. W. Grand Master.

Clifford P. MacCalla, R. W. S. Grand Warden.

Michael Nisbet, R. W. Grand Secretary.

Brother John Sartain.

“ Charles H. Kingston.

“ George W. Wood.

“ William B. Reed.

“ B. Frank Abbett.

“ Samuel C. Perkins, R. W. Past Grand Master.

“ Thomas Jacobs.

“ Godfrey Keebler.

“ Edward H. Wilson.

Pennsylvania Historical Society.

Philadelphia Evening Bulletin Company.

On motion of Right Worshipful Past Grand Master
Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS, it was

“*Resolved*, That a Committee of five members of this Grand
Lodge be appointed to take into consideration the whole subject
of the dispensing the Charities of this Right Worshipful Grand
Lodge and the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania generally.”

The Right Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to appoint Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS, Brothers ALFRED C. STULB, BARCLAY J. WOODWARD, GETER C. SHIDLE, and WILLIAM J. KELLY as said Committee.

The Committee appointed to procure a life-size portrait of Brother STEPHEN GIRARD made the following report, when, on motion, the bills thereto attached were ordered to be paid :

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania of Free and Accepted Masons :

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER,—The Committee appointed at the December Communication, 1884, authorized to have a life-size portrait painted of Brother STEPHEN GIRARD, herewith report that we have discharged our duty.

The painting is finished, and placed in its proper location on the south wall of the Grand Lodge Room. This was painted by Frederick James, the same artist who painted the portraits of FRANKLIN and LAFAYETTE. We trust it may merit the approval of the Grand Lodge.

We present the following bills, and ask that orders be drawn for payment of the same :

Frederick James, for Painting Portrait of STEPHEN	
GIRARD	\$410.00
Charles E. Bonnet, for framing same	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$560.00

Fraternally yours,

JOHN C. YEAGER,
SAMUEL HARPER.

The following report from Brother JAMES W. McDOWELL, District Deputy Grand Master for the 29th District, was read :

*To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons,
of Pennsylvania:*

The District Deputy Grand Master for the 29th District respectfully reports the following facts with reference to Clarksville Lodge, No. 403, at Clarksville, Greene County: On September 8, 1884, he went to Clarksville to visit this Lodge, having with him the Report of the Grand Secretary on the minutes of the Lodge, and a Decree of the Right Worshipful Grand Master as to certain irregularities of the Lodge. Although these papers were of the utmost importance to the Lodge and its members, nearly all of whom it seems were notified of the intended visit and its purpose, but three of them were present,—the W. M., Secretary, and another Brother. The papers, however, were read and explained to those present, and full and explicit directions given as to their entry in the minutes of the next stated meeting, as well as instruction given in the work and other matters pertaining to the Lodge.

The District Deputy Grand Master again went to visit this Lodge on September 28, 1885, notice having previously been given as on the former occasion. This time there were but two members of the Lodge to meet him,—the W. M. and Secretary. The reason given for the absence of some was sickness, of others indisposition to meet the District Deputy Grand Master. Both these times were regular stated meeting nights of the Lodge.

The minute-book shows but three (or four) meetings within a year, at one of which the Lodge was opened with only four Brethren present. The minutes are not properly kept; the Decree of the Right Worshipful Grand Master and Report of Grand Secretary above mentioned are imperfectly recorded and not as directed. The Officers have not improved the opportunities afforded them to learn the work or to properly transact the business of the Lodge. There are but eleven members in all.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES W. McDOWELL,

District Deputy Grand Master 29th District.

On motion of Past Grand Master CONRAD B. DAY,
it was

“Resolved, That the Warrant of Lodge No. 403 be vacated, and that the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary be directed to issue Certificates to those members who are clear of the books of said Lodge and are in good Masonic standing.”

Brother CHARLES L. WHEELER moved that the amendment offered by Brother WILLIAM J. KELLY at the Annual Grand Communication, December 27, A.D. 1884, to Section 59, page 60, of the Ahiman Rezon, be now taken up, which was agreed to.

Brother J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON withdrew the amendment offered by him at the same Communication to Section 59, page 60, of the Ahiman Rezon, when the amendment offered by Brother KELLY was adopted.

Brother J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON moved that the amendment offered by him at the Annual Grand Communication, December 27, A.D. 1884, to Section 49 of the Ahiman Rezon, be now taken up, which was agreed to, when the amendment was lost.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, Brother MICHAEL NISBET, it was

“Resolved, That the amendment to Section 59, page 60, of the Ahiman Rezon just adopted apply to all cases of oral objections occurring within three years past.”

Grand Lodge closed in harmony at 9 o'clock 10 minutes P.M.

Michael Nisbet
Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, Dec. 28, A.D. 1885, A.L. 5885.

PRESENT:

BRO. E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
“ JOSEPH EICHBAUM . . .	<i>R. W. Deputy Grand Master.</i>
“ CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . . .	<i>R. W. Senior Grand Warden.</i>
“ J. SIMPSON AFRICA . . .	<i>R. W. Junior Grand Warden.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ MICHAEL NISBET . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Secretary.</i>
“ CHARLES H. KINGSTON . . .	<i>Deputy Grand Secretary.</i>
“ JOHN SLINGLUFF . . .	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ ANDREW J. KAUFFMANN . . .	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ HENRY S. GETZ . . .	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
“ THADDEUS S. ADLE . . .	} <i>D. D. Grand Masters.</i>
“ HENRY A. TYSON . . .	
“ MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON . . .	
“ WILLIAM B. MEREDITH . . .	
“ S. KINGSTON MCKAY . . .	} <i>Grand Stewards.</i>
“ J. WESLEY SUPPLEE . . .	
“ GEORGE W. WOOD . . .	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
“ GODFREY KEEBLER . . .	<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
“ ROBERT P. DECHERT . . .	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
“ WILLIAM A. SINN . . .	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>
“ RICHARD VAUX . . .	} <i>R. W. Past Grand Masters.</i>
“ SAMUEL C. PERKINS . . .	
“ MICHAEL NISBET . . .	
“ CONRAD B. DAY . . .	

Bro. RICHARD VAUX	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of New York, Illinois, South Carolina, Ala- bama, Texas, Minnesota, Washington Territory, and Colon and Cuba.</i>
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of Canada and Louisiana.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of North Caro- lina.</i>
" CONRAD B. DAY	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.</i>
" E. COPPÉE MITCHELL	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Idaho.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan.</i>
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.</i>
" AUGUSTUS R. HALL	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.</i>
" CHARLES E. MEYER	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.</i>
" JOHN CURTIS	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Colorado.</i>
" WILLIAM B. HACKENBURG	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island.</i>
" ROBERT P. DECHERT	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Indian Ter- ritory.</i>
" LOUIS WAGNER	{	<i>Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.</i>

Sixty-nine Lodges represented.

Grand Lodge opened in ample form at 10 o'clock 15 minutes A.M.

The following communication was received and read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes :

GALVESTON, December 13, 1885.

Right Worshipful Michael Nisbet, Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania :

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER,—An absence of four days from the city has prevented me from making an earlier acknowledgment of your fraternal favor of the 3d instant, enclosing check for \$500 as a contribution from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the relief of the sufferers by the great fire in Galveston.

In the name of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and in behalf of the beneficiaries of the fund, I extend the most grateful thanks to your Grand Lodge for its munificent donation, which will greatly aid to relieve the widows and orphans who have been rendered homeless and left without means of support, and will also help to repair the losses of Master Masons who were not able to help themselves. The thanks of the entire Fraternity of this State are due to the Grand Lodge of your grand old Commonwealth. May all her ways be ways of pleasantness and her paths be peace. With sentiments of the kindest personal consideration, I am

Fraternally yours,

M. F. MOTT,

Past Grand Master.

The following resolution from District Deputy Grand Master Brother CHARLES E. RIGGS was read :

To the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Officers, and Members of the Grand Lodge :

I desire to offer the following resolution :

“*Resolved*, That the Committee on Printing and Publishing be and are hereby empowered and directed to cause to be printed in the published Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for the Masonic year ending December 27, 1885, A.L. 5885, steel

portraits of Right Worshipful Grand Master E. COPPÉE MITCHELL, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary MICHAEL NISBET, and Right Worshipful Past Grand Master CONRAD B. DAY."

CHAS. E. RIGGS,

District Deputy Grand Master 16th District.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Officers, and Members of the Grand Lodge:

I most respectfully second the above motion.

THEO. PIERCE,

Past Master of Canton Lodge, No. 418.

On motion of Brother WILLIAM J. KELLY, the consideration thereof was postponed until the Quarterly Communication in December next.

The Trustees of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund made the following report, which was ordered to be entered on the minutes :

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free and Accepted Masons:

In obedience to the resolution of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, adopted December 2, 1885, the Trustees of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund rented on December 3 a box from the Fidelity Insurance, Trust, and Safe Deposit Company at a cost of ten dollars per annum, and on the same day deposited the securities belonging to the Grand Lodge Charity Fund therein, arranging that access to the box could only be had in presence of any two of the Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL BRITTAIN,

for Trustees.

PHILADELPHIA, December 28, 1885.

The Committee on Appeals made the following report, when the resolution hereto attached was adopted :

To Grand Lodge :

In the matter of the appeal of ——— from the action of Bethlehem Lodge, No. 283.

The Committee on Appeals ask leave most respectfully to report :

The Ahiman Rezon, page 35, Section 10, clearly declares how the record in all cases of appeals from the action of Subordinate Lodges to Grand Lodge shall be made up.

It is impossible to read this Section and fail to understand exactly what is the duty of the appellant to do in perfecting his appeal.

This Ahiman Rezon was promulgated by Grand Lodge eight years ago.

During these eight years it is hardly possible to believe that its provisions are unknown to the Craft. Yet the appeal now before the Committee does not present one single requirement of Section 10. Not one.

Without considering the appeal itself,

Your Committee feels it a duty on this single ground to offer the following resolution :

“Resolved, That the appeal of ——— be dismissed, because it fails to comply with the provisions of the Ahiman Rezon, page 35, Section 10, governing and regulating the form of appeals.”

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD VAUX,

Chairman Committee on Appeals.

ST. JOHN'S DAY, 1885.

The Committee on Correspondence submitted their report, which was, on motion, referred to the Grand Officers, with power to print.

The Committee on By-Laws made the following report, which was ordered to be entered and filed :

*To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted
Masons, of Pennsylvania :*

BRETHREN,—Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communication held December 2 last, having directed the Committee on By-Laws to prepare and present at the Quarterly Communication in March next a revised Form of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges, your Committee deem it inexpedient to report on any By-Laws, or amendments to By-Laws, that have been referred to them, until said Forms are adopted by Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. KINGSTON,

Chairman Committee on By-Laws.

The Almoners of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund made the following report, which was ordered to be entered and filed :

PHILADELPHIA, December 28, 1885.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania :

The Board of Almoners of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund respectfully submit the following statement of their operations during the past year :

DR.

To balance on hand December 27, 1884	.	\$167.00
" appropriation Class No. 1	. . .	1100.00
" " " " 2	. . .	500.00
" " " " 3	. . .	500.00
" " " " 4	. . .	1000.00
	—————	\$3267.00

CR.

By amount donated for relief, 273 appli-	
cants	3015.00
	—————
Balance on hand	\$252.00

The proceedings of the Board have been characterized by great unanimity and true Masonic charity, and the small amounts donated to the applicants have done a vast amount of good, and the

only regret we have to express is that the smallness of the sum at our disposal has rendered it impossible to grant larger amounts to some urgent cases that have come before us.

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED C. STULB,

President of the Board of Almoners,

Per J. L.

The Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund made the following report, which was ordered to be entered and filed:

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

The undersigned, on behalf of the Stewards of the "Stephen Girard Charity Fund," submits the following report of their proceedings for the year ending December 27, 1885:

Balance on hand December 26, 1884, as per last report	. \$191.00
Amount appropriated to Class No. 1	. . . \$800.00
" " " 2	. . . 700.00
" " " 3	. . . 700.00
" " " 4	. . . 800.00
Total amount appropriated by Grand Lodge	. 3000.00
Returned by Brother ADOLPH PROSKAUER, the amount granted for his relief, June 11, 1885	. . . . . 25.00
	<hr/> \$3216.00

In the performance of their official duty the Stewards have granted relief to one hundred and sixty-six poor and respectable Brethren, to wit:

To 159 hailing under this jurisdiction	. . . \$2636.00
7 " " other jurisdictions, viz.:	
1 " " Gibraltar	. . . \$30.00
1 " " Scotland	. . . 10.00
1 " " Maine	. . . 20.00
1 " " North Carolina	. . . 10.00

To 2 hailing under New Jersey	30.00	
1 " " Michigan	15.00	
	<hr/>	115.00
		<hr/>
		\$2751.00
Balance remaining December 26, 1885	465.00	
	<hr/>	\$3216.00

Respectfully submitted,

B. J. WOODWARD,

President of Stewards.

So much of the minutes of the Quarterly Communication, held December 3, A.L. 5884, as relates to the election of Grand Officers was read, when the following-named Brethren were duly installed in their respective stations, for the ensuing Masonic year, in ancient and solemn form, viz.:

Bro. E. COPPÉE MITCHELL . .	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
" JOSEPH EICHBAUM . .	<i>R. W. Deputy Grand Master.</i>
" CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA . .	<i>R. W. Senior Grand Warden.</i>
" J. SIMPSON AFRICA . .	<i>R. W. Junior Grand Warden.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON . .	<i>R. W. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET . . .	<i>R. W. Grand Secretary.</i>

The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brother E. COPPÉE MITCHELL, delivered the following address:

BRETHREN OF GRAND LODGE:

As the clock strikes the hour of noon on St. John's Day, the old Masonic year passes into history and the New Year begins. Such epochs bring serious thoughts with them.

Looking into the past year, we have many and great blessings for which to thank God, the giver of every

good and perfect gift. Let us devoutly acknowledge our dependence upon Him, and our gratitude for all His mercies.

Looking into the future, let us humbly invoke the Divine protection and guidance for the peace and prosperity of our beloved Fraternity.

Before we enter upon another year, I will, in accordance with the established custom, give you a brief review of the occurrences of the past year, and such considerations and suggestions as naturally arise from them.

GRAND LODGES OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS.

Everything in the year just past has been peaceful (I may say exceptionally so) in the Craft. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is in harmony with all the Grand Lodges recognized by it, and nothing has occurred to interfere in the slightest degree with these pleasant fraternal relations. I have had correspondence with the Grand Masters of several jurisdictions, principally with regard to applicants for initiation and membership, living in Pennsylvania, and applying to Lodges in other jurisdictions. Everything has been conducted with brotherly kindness, and there has been not the slightest occasion for any discord or harsh feeling growing out of this correspondence. On one or two occasions I have applied to the Grand Masters of other Grand Lodges to interpose their authority to prevent invasions of the rights of our Lodges, and in

every instance the response has been such as might have been expected,—an immediate recognition of the proprieties of the case, and an enforcement of the law in every particular.

In January of this year, in compliance with the request of Right Worshipful Brother CHRISTOPHER DIEHL, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Utah, sent to our Grand Secretary, Brother MICHAEL NISBET, I requested Humboldt Lodge, No. 359, of this city, to bury with Masonic honors the remains of Brother SAMUEL KAHN, late Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Utah. This duty was regularly performed by Humboldt Lodge, and I received a letter of acknowledgment from Brother DIEHL, who also sent to Humboldt Lodge the thanks of his Grand Lodge for the services rendered.

In February last I received a kind and most fraternal invitation for myself and the Officers of the Grand Lodge to take part in the Masonic ceremonies of dedication of the Washington Monument at Washington City. Being unable to go myself, and the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master being also unable to leave his home at that time, I requested Brother CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA, the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, to go with a delegation of the Officers of the Grand Lodge, including Past Grand Master Brother, the Hon. RICHARD VAUX, and they were most courteously and fraternally received by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the District of

Columbia, and the Brethren of that Grand Lodge, and every kindness was extended to the Brethren who represented the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania upon that most interesting occasion.

I have appointed Grand Representatives of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodges of other jurisdictions as follows:

Brother GEORGE S. GREEN, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, as our Representative near that Grand Lodge.

Brother JOHN HOPPER, Past Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, as our Representative near that Grand Lodge.

Brother LOUIS ZIEGLER, the present Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington Territory, as our Representative near that Grand Lodge.

Commissions have been issued to these Brethren, and received by them with the expression of sentiments of respect and affection for this venerable Grand Lodge.

I have also received a commission from Brother MATTHEW M. MILLER, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, appointing our Right Reverend Brother CORTLANDT WHITEHEAD, Grand Chaplain, as Representative of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Kansas near the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. I forwarded this commission to Brother WHITEHEAD at Pittsburgh, with advice that he should

present it to you, in order that it might be properly received and acknowledged.

The Grand Lodge has been already informed that in the month of February last I called an Emergent Meeting of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of making a Mason at sight of the Right Reverend WILLIAM STEVENS PERRY, Doctor in Divinity, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Iowa. As he is a resident of Iowa, I obtained the consent of the Most Worshipful CHARLES T. GRANGER, Grand Master of Masons of Iowa, before conferring the degrees upon him. This exercise of the ancient prerogative of the Grand Masters of Pennsylvania by me was warranted by the occasion. The gentleman who was thus made a Mason had been long personally known to me as suitable in every particular for the distinction which was conferred upon him,—a ripe scholar, a distinguished clergyman, and an honest man. I have since been informed that he has connected himself with the Craft in the State of Iowa, by joining a Lodge in the city of Davenport, where he resides. The Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Iowa will be pleased to receive the work we have done upon this most suitable material.

I am happy to report that there has been harmony and freedom from all disturbing occurrences within our own borders. Everywhere there have been felt and expressed sentiments of the warmest and most affectionate loyalty to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and attachment and affection to the great Fraternity to which

we belong. Everywhere, except in a few places for which special reasons exist, the Brethren seem to have entered upon prosperity and good fortune. Lodges which have, for a long time, received few or no additions to their membership, are now receiving applications from that class of the community whom we especially desire to have among us. There can be no better evidence of Lodge prosperity than this. It cannot be too often reiterated that it is of vital importance that the new members brought into a Lodge should be chosen from the best in the community in which the Lodge exists. It is the character of the members, rather than their number, that gives tone to a Lodge and fixes its position in the respect of the community in which it is situated.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

I am happy, also, to say that the District Deputy Grand Masters, to whom the interests of the Fraternity in various parts of the State are committed, have done their duty faithfully and well, and deserve thanks from me and commendation from you. It would be impossible, without some such aid, to administer, intelligently, the discipline of so large a body as the Fraternity in the State, and I have always found them ready, willing, and active in the performance of their duties, and faithful in carrying out the expressed wishes of the Grand Master. The office of District Deputy, as has often been said by my predecessors, is one of great dignity and importance. Each, in his District, is the represen-

tative of the Grand Master, and should be listened to and obeyed cordially and willingly. The respect which is symbolized by the regulation that the members of a Lodge should rise upon the entrance of a District Deputy Grand Master into the body of the open Lodge, should be carried beyond mere form, and should be shown by a ready obedience to his instructions and advice when given. Should, at any time, a Lodge believe that the District Deputy Grand Master is mistaken in any serious matter upon which he has given them directions, it is the right of the Lodge to appeal to the Grand Master, but this should always be done with a careful regard for the dignity of his office, and the respect that is due to an experienced Brother.

Except in the city of Philadelphia, where there is no District Deputy Grand Master, all the communications between individual Lodges and the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge, should come through the District Deputy Grand Masters. To enable them to intelligently exercise the duties of the office, it is necessary that they should be informed of all Masonic matters passing in their Districts worthy of remark, and I have carefully sent to them everything which came to my knowledge; and whenever I have had any communication to make to any Lodge, or Worshipful Master, I have uniformly sent it to the District Deputy Grand Master of the proper District, with instructions that he should read it for his own information, and then forward it to its address.

UNIFORMITY IN RITUAL.

It is owing to the labors of these earnest and faithful Brethren, more than any other cause, that there has been a growing uniformity in the Ritual of our ceremonies, outside of the city of Philadelphia. It is extremely difficult to eradicate errors of long standing in a Ritual which is not committed to writing, and depends for its transmission entirely upon memory. There is always about a Lodge some experienced Brother who, with entire honesty of purpose, and a desire to do what he believes to be right, clings to the Ritual as it existed in his own Lodge at the time he was made a Mason, and resents in heart, at least, if not in speech, any interference with it, as meddling with a sacred thing. Such a Brother does not reflect that there are other Lodges outside of his where there are other Brethren exactly like himself, cherishing other errors with the same fidelity and honesty of purpose. It is manifest from the spirit of our teachings that the work of the Craft ought to be the same in all the Lodges. Who shall decide which of these Brethren is right? The Grand Master is the ultimate judge, it is true, but it is not always convenient to apply to him, even if it were possible for one man to give the necessary time to the instruction of the Brethren who from year to year are called to occupy the stations in our Lodges.

In Philadelphia, the establishment of the Temple School has furnished a means of instruction to those

who wish to learn the work as authorized by the Grand Lodge. For several years, and now, this school has been under the immediate supervision of the Grand Master, and I can speak of my own personal knowledge when I say that there has been no alteration of the work in any jot or tittle during the last seven years. Early in this year I called a meeting of the Temple School for the purpose of inspecting the work which they taught, and had it rehearsed before me. There were present on that occasion several of the Past Grand Masters, and other experienced Brethren. We were aided, moreover, by the Grand Marshal, Brother GEORGE W. WOOD. The work of the three degrees was rehearsed and carefully inspected; questions were answered, and corrections made where they were necessary, and the result was very satisfactory. It is my intention to make another visit to the Temple School early in this year, and I have no doubt that so long as the Brethren in charge of the teaching in that school exhibit the same faithfulness in correcting the slight errors—for there have been no serious ones—which, from time to time, creep into their work, and in listening to the instructions given them by those upon whom the final responsibility for the work rests, this school will form a most useful and reliable means of keeping the work uniform within the city of Philadelphia.

Outside of the city of Philadelphia, as I said, we are obliged to depend upon the District Deputy Grand Masters. It is therefore of prime importance that each

one intrusted with such an office should himself accurately learn the work, that he may be qualified to impart it to the Lodges that are committed to his care. A District Deputy Grand Master who fails in this respect is derelict in a most important part of his duty. Especially is this true in the counties of the State whose lines border upon other jurisdictions. We have endeavored to preserve the Ancient Work of the Craft in all its didactic purity, while in some other places the disposition to dramatize has been yielded to. If we are to keep our ancient Ritual it must be by constant watchfulness against the tendency to imitation, which is one of the instincts of human nature, and it is to the District Deputy Grand Master that this duty is intrusted.

In this connection I will call the attention of the Brethren to the regulation that no lawful school for teaching the work can be held by a Lodge without the express permission of the Grand Master first obtained for that purpose. At the request of the Worshipful Master and Brethren of Lodge No. 296, of Germantown, I granted them permission to open such a school in connection with their Lodge, having carefully assured myself that the Brethren appointed to teach in it had the requisite qualifications.

EDICTS.

It has been my unpleasant duty during the year to issue a large number of Edicts, in a great many cases declaring void the admission of members to Lodges and

the initiation of candidates by Lodges. I am not unmindful of the fact—indeed, it has been very much upon my mind—that in taking this method of rectifying the errors of a Worshipful Master, or of the Secretary of a Lodge, the punishment falls most hardly upon the innocent man who has had nothing to do with the unlawfulness of the method by which he has been taken into the Lodge. If another way of satisfying my obligation to see the regulations of the Grand Lodge fully enforced could have been discovered by me, I would gladly have taken it. When an Edict for any such cause as that is issued, the real offender is either the Worshipful Master or the Secretary of the Lodge, or both, and, if the vexation of undoing it could entirely fall upon the sinners, exact and accurate justice would be done. For instance, an unaffiliated Mason in good standing applies to a Lodge by petition for membership. The Secretary neglects to make inquiry of the Grand Secretary as to whether there is anything on the records against him. The omission is not noticed by the Worshipful Master at the time that the report of the Committee is presented; the ballot is taken, the Brother is elected, pays his membership fee, and supposes that he is a full-fledged member of the Lodge, when suddenly, like lightning from a clear sky, comes an Edict from the Grand Master, which declares the whole proceeding void from the time the inquiry ought to have been made, and that the newly-elected member must be stricken from the roll of members, and the fee which

he has paid returned to him. It is a pity that the unoffending Brother should be punished for the negligence of the Secretary of the Lodge, and yet it is unavoidable. I regret to say that cases like the one I have supposed are unhappily common. They could all be avoided if the Secretaries of Lodges would read the Ahiman Rezon, and make use of the "Form of Minutes" which has been provided for them by the Grand Lodge (and of which each of them has a copy), and if they would give a little more careful attention to the duties of their stations. Where Edicts to a Lodge become frequent, it would be well for the Brethren of that Lodge to inquire whether a change in their Secretary would not be of advantage.

RESIGNATIONS AND DIMITS.

There is another subject which has been a fruitful source of Edicts, possibly arising from a misapprehension of the law governing such cases. I refer to resignations and dimits. In June, 1884, the Grand Lodge approved a form of by-law on the subject of resignation, and by resolution introduced it into the code of By-Laws of each Lodge under its jurisdiction. It is as follows :

"Any member wishing to resign from this Lodge shall present his resignation in writing at a stated meeting. At the next regular stated meeting the resignation, subject to the provisions of Section 45, page 56, of the Ahiman Rezon, shall be accepted ; provided, however, in case of an emergency, of which the Lodge

shall be the judge, the resignation, subject as aforesaid, may be accepted at the meeting when it is offered."

This by-law was sent to each Lodge in the jurisdiction by the Grand Secretary shortly after its adoption by Grand Lodge.

Notwithstanding this action of Grand Lodge, it seems to be the understanding of some of the Brethren that when a Brother wishes to sever his connection with the Lodge, all that he has to do "is to ask for a dimit," which is granted him by the Lodge. It has been decided by my predecessor that such action on the part of the Brother was not a compliance with that by-law; and that "asking for a dimit" is not presenting a resignation in writing, nor is granting it by the Lodge the acceptance of the resignation required. The dimit is a certificate of withdrawal which the officers of the Lodge, of their own motion, without any further authority, give the Brother whose resignation has been properly presented to and accepted by the Lodge. One who does not sever his connection with the Lodge *lawfully* does not succeed in severing it at all, although he may intend to do it. He remains a member of the Lodge, liable to pay dues, and unable to form a new connection with another Lodge, because no Brother ought to belong to two Lodges at the same time. I mention this subject publicly to correct this erroneous impression, and to save the Brethren the annoyance of falling into error when they think they are pursuing the right course.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have also granted a number of Dispensations during the year,—chiefly to hold special elections for Worshipful Master, or one of the Wardens, or Treasurer or Secretary, and sometimes to elect all the officers. I have refused Dispensations in some cases where there seemed to be not sufficient occasion for the exercise of the power, as to advance the lawful time of receiving the degrees. I have endeavored to exercise this high prerogative with care to preserve the Landmarks, and to prevent a loose dependence upon it as an excuse for the non-performance of duties at the required time.

GRAND VISITATION.

In the month of May of this year, accompanied by the Grand Officers and several of the Past Grand Masters, I paid an official visitation to the Lodges in Reading, Pottsville, Bloomsburg, Wilkesbarre, Mauch Chunk, and Easton, spending one night in each of these places. The District Deputy Grand Masters of the Districts in which these Lodges are respectively situated, at my request, had convened in each Lodge the Brethren of all the Lodges in his District, and we were thus enabled to meet the Officers and Brethren of a great many different Lodges on each occasion. We were everywhere received with courtesy and fraternal kindness. The work of the Craft was rehearsed by the Officers of the respective Lodges, in some cases

with great correctness, and to our entire satisfaction. In others, inaccuracies and errors were pointed out, and our instructions and advice were received by the Brethren in a truly fraternal and loyal spirit. The minutes of each of these Lodges were inspected by the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, and his report made thereon commenting upon the inaccuracies in recording the minutes which were pointed out. Fraternal advice and instruction was given to the Brethren in each place, and I trust that the Lodges and Districts which we visited received permanent benefit from what was said and done.

CORNER-STONES.

On Thursday, the 8th of October, accompanied by the Grand Officers, I visited South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, upon the invitation of Brother ROBERT A. LAMBERTON, LL.D., President of Lehigh University, and the Trustees of the Institution, and, at their request, laid the corner-stone of the "Packer Memorial Church of the Lehigh University." All the Lodges in the immediate neighborhood attended in considerable numbers, and the procession of the Brethren which was formed upon the occasion was very creditable to the Craft. An eloquent address was delivered by the Right Reverend CORTLANDT WHITEHEAD, D.D., Grand Chaplain. This church was erected by the only surviving daughter of our late Brother ASA PACKER, the founder of the University, as a memorial of her deceased father

and his two sons, also deceased, all three of whom were members of Carbon Lodge, No. 242, at Mauch Chunk, up to the dates of their respective deaths.

On the 10th of November, at the request of the Cannstatter Volksfest Verein, of Philadelphia, with the assistance of the Grand Officers, I laid the cornerstone of a monument to be erected in Fairmount Park by that Society to the memory of the Poet Schiller. Several of the Past Grand Masters attended. The ceremony was impressive, and witnessed by a large crowd of people, and an eloquent address was delivered by Past Grand Master the Honorable RICHARD VAUX.

GRAND TREASURER.

In July, 1885, Right Worshipful Brother THOMAS R. PATTON, having informed me of his purpose to visit Europe, to be absent from the jurisdiction for several months, handed to me his books of account and all the moneys of the Grand Lodge remaining in his hands.

I thereupon appointed Brother GEORGE W. WOOD to be *acting* Grand Treasurer during his absence. Upon the return of Brother PATTON, in November, all the books, papers, and moneys were retransferred to him, and the accounts of Brother WOOD examined, vouched, and found correct.

DECISIONS.

I have made a number of decisions during the year, none of which have been new, and nearly all of which

were made in accordance with the direct and plain provisions of the Ahiman Rezon. It ought not to need a ruling from the Grand Master to inform a Brother that one who has lost a member, or a part of a member, cannot lawfully be made a Mason (although physical disqualification occurring *after* initiation does not necessarily bar the Brother from advancement); or that a Lodge cannot appear in public as a part of a procession formed of other societies not connected with the Fraternity; or that an elected Officer of a Lodge, having been installed into his office, cannot resign it; or that a period of one Masonic month, which is at the least four weeks, and usually is longer, must elapse between the conferring of the degrees upon a candidate; or that profanes cannot be admitted on any occasion when a Lodge is congregated as such either for the performance of ceremonies or for refreshment; and yet these are fair specimens of the questions that have been—some of them more than once—propounded to the Grand Master for his decision during the last year.

Among the questions presented are a few which, although the decision which was made did not involve a new principle, are worthy of remark as being of interest to the Grand Lodge. The Grand Master was requested to allow a Lodge to perform the funeral services over the remains of a Brother from Missouri. Permission was granted, with the injunction that there should be no public procession other than that prescribed by the Ahiman Rezon for such occasions.

I was afterwards informed that the deceased Brother had committed suicide, and that instead of being buried his remains were cremated, and part of the Lodge ceremonies were performed at the crematory. These were two important facts that ought to have been made known at the time the permission was asked. They might have had a decided influence upon the answer given. I am not prepared to say that, under all circumstances, a suicide is entitled to Masonic funeral honors, nor am I prepared to say that the "*Masonic Burial Service*" can be performed when the remains are cremated, instead of being interred. These are interesting questions, about which the Craft are not agreed in opinion, and they should not be decided by any one in authority without careful consideration and consultation. I do not purpose to decide them now. When the occasion arises it will be time enough to do that.

In another case, where a Lodge had amended its By-Laws, involving a change in its time of stated meeting, and the amendment had been approved by the Grand Lodge, I was asked at what time that amendment went into operation. I decided that the amendment went into effect after the approval of the Grand Lodge had been received and read in open Lodge, and not before. A moment's reflection will enable any one to see the reason for this decision. The change in the law ought to be known by the members before it becomes a part of their printed code, and that cannot be until after a meeting at which each of the

Brethren has an opportunity to be present, and the information is generally and publicly given.

REMOVALS.

I have also on several occasions given my consent, as required by the Ahiman Rezon, to the change of the place of meeting of Lodges, and have advised with several of the District Deputy Grand Masters on the same subject. By the Ahiman Rezon, when a Lodge desires to change its place of meeting, it is required that the approval of the Grand Master or the District Deputy Grand Master shall be necessary to authorize such removal. Where the Lodge-room to which it is proposed to remove is new, and has never been used for the purpose before, the District Deputy Grand Master, before giving his consent, should *see the room*, and satisfy himself that the Lodge meeting there can be securely tyled, and that it is in other respects suited to its purpose; and the permission should not be given to permanently make the change until he is satisfied by careful inspection upon these points.

FINANCES.

It is with very great pleasure that I call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the prosperous condition of its finances. The report of the Finance Committee, presented at the December Quarterly Communication, covering the close of the fiscal year, shows that the income of the Grand Lodge is sufficient for all the

calls made upon it. I am pleased that we have been able, out of the income of Grand Lodge, to place in the Sinking Fund during the year 1885 the sum of \$15,000, which, although appropriated to the deficiencies of a former year, is the full amount of the yearly contribution allotted for the purpose. I look upon this Sinking Fund as a most important factor in the future prosperity of Grand Lodge. It now amounts to over \$325,000, and with the regular reinvestment of its interest, and the annual contributions from the income of Grand Lodge, it must grow rapidly, and enable us to discharge our debt when the proper time arrives. I do not doubt that during the coming year we shall be able to pay the \$15,000 due from Grand Lodge, and perhaps as much more. It is of the utmost importance that the moneys of the Sinking Fund should be *securely* invested. Any mistake in this direction would be disastrous, and must be carefully guarded against. Absolute safety is the principal thing to be desired, and the rate of interest secured is of minor importance in comparison.

PERMISSION TO PUBLISH.

In April last Lodge No. 43, at Lancaster, celebrated its one hundredth anniversary. Among the preparations made by the Lodge to mark that interesting occasion was the compiling of a history of the Lodge by Brother GEORGE R. WELCHANS, M.D., and my permission was asked, in accordance with the Ahiman Rezon, to print

this history. After several slight modifications it was most willingly granted. The work of DR. WELCHANS is a very valuable contribution to the Masonic history of this jurisdiction. It covers ground about which there is not much accurately known among the Brethren, except perhaps to a few who have sources of information not generally accessible. The history is prepared in a thoroughly loyal spirit to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and bears most evident marks of the care and labor bestowed upon it by its author.

CHARITY.

There is one thought, Brethren, of which, as Freemasons, we should never be unmindful. It is that charity is the vitalizing spirit of our Fraternity, the source of our strength and power in the world, the very reason why we should exist as a society. In the exercise of this, the chief of the cardinal virtues, I am aware that the Brethren of Pennsylvania have not been remiss. But as a Grand Lodge we possess two large funds devoted exclusively to charitable uses,—the Grand Lodge Charity Fund and the Stephen Girard Charity Fund. At our last Communication a Special Committee was raised to take into consideration the methods of dispensing the charities of the Fraternity in the State, including the disposition of the income arising from these two funds. I do not desire to forestall the action of that Committee, but it may not be out of place to notice the immediate demand

which prompted Grand Lodge to authorize its appointment. It is that a system may be put into operation by which the worthy Brother who needs *immediate* assistance and cannot wait, may have his case properly investigated *without delay*, and the relief suited to his wants promptly afforded.

No doubt Brother Stephen Girard, in his varied experience as a merchant and mariner trading with many foreign countries, had in mind, when he established the fund which bears his name, the many vicissitudes in life in which a worthy and respectable man, abundantly able, under ordinary circumstances, to maintain himself, might find himself, through sickness, shipwreck, or other accident, far from home; a stranger in a strange land, perhaps not even understanding the language spoken round him, penniless and friendless. Where could such an one go for help? If a Freemason, he would naturally, inevitably, properly, go where he knows *he has a right* to recognition and relief; where, although a stranger, he is sure to find friends and to be recognized as a Brother by his Brethren.

So precious and sacred a privilege as this, which can never be refused recognition, should be jealously guarded against imposture. We ought carefully to mature a plan by which we secure to the worthy Brother the absolute certainty of receiving the assistance which he has a right to expect; and just as thoroughly enable ourselves to detect the impostors

who by fraudulent arts endeavor to share in the benefits to which they are not entitled.

MASONIC HOME.

While on this subject, I feel constrained to mention the Masonic Home, a charity which deserves and is receiving the cherishing love and assistance of the Brethren. While it is not under the control of the Grand Lodge, which is in no way responsible for it, yet it is an institution of great merit, and appeals to the heart of every true Mason in Pennsylvania for all the help he can give.

CONCLUSION.

And now, Brethren, as I stand upon the threshold of another year, and am about to assume again, by your unanimous vote, the responsible station of Grand Master, let me offer you my grateful thanks for the kind and generous support you have given me in the year just ended, and beg for its continuance during the year to come.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master announced the following appointments for the Masonic year, commencing this day :

Grand Chaplains:

RT. REV. BRO. CORTLANDT WHITEHEAD, D.D., of
Pittsburgh.

REV. BRO. RICHARD H. ALLEN, D.D., of Philadelphia.

“ J. J. McILYAR, D.D., of Pittsburgh.

“ JAMES W. ROBINS, D.D., of Philadelphia.

REV. BRO. FRANK E. MILLER, of Easton.

“ HENRY S. GETZ, of Philadelphia.

“ JOHN S. J. McCONNELL, of Philadelphia.

“ SAMUEL HIRSCH, of Philadelphia.

“ BENJAMIN F. DELO, of Clarion.

“ LUTHER F. SMITH, of Thompsontown.

Senior Grand Deacon :

BRO. GEORGE S. GRAHAM, Lodge No. 52, Philadelphia.

Junior Grand Deacon :

BRO. JAMES S. McKEAN, Lodge No. 525, Allegheny.

Grand Stewards :

BRO. S. KINGSTON McCAY, Lodge No. 72, Philadelphia.

“ J. WESLEY SUPPLEE, Lodge No. 131, Philadelphia.

Grand Marshal :

BRO. GEORGE W. WOOD, Lodge No. 67, Philadelphia.

Grand Sword Bearer :

BRO. LOUIS M. CHASTEAU, Lodge No. 419, Philadelphia.

Grand Pursuivant :

BRO. EDWIN S. STUART, Lodge No. 271, Philadelphia.

Grand Tyler :

BRO. WILLIAM A. SINN, Lodge No. 19, Philadelphia.

Committee on Landmarks :

BRO. ROBERT A. LAMBERTON, R. Worshipful Past Grand Master.

“ MICHAEL NISBET, R. Worshipful Past Grand Master.

“ CONRAD B. DAY, R. Worshipful Past Grand Master.

WITH THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER and
DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

Committee on Appeals :

- BRO. RICHARD VAUX, R. Worshipful Past Grand Master,
 “ MICHAEL ARNOLD, Lodge No. 126, Philadelphia.
 “ WILLIAM B. HACKENBURG, Lodge No. 246, Philadelphia.
 “ SAMUEL HARPER, Lodge No. 219, Pittsburgh.
 “ WILLIAM B. HANNA, Lodge No. 59, Philadelphia.

Committee on Finance :

- BRO. JOHN C. YEAGER, Lodge No. 158, Philadelphia.
 “ JAMES HERDMAN, Lodge No. 287, Pittsburgh.
 “ GEORGE E. WAGNER, Lodge No. 52, Philadelphia.
 “ JOHN SLINGLUFF, Lodge No. 190, Norristown.
 “ ROBERT P. DECHERT, Lodge No. 274, Philadelphia.

Committee on Correspondence :

- BRO. RICHARD VAUX, R. Worshipful Past Grand Master.
 “ PEARSON CHURCH, Lodge No. 408, Meadville.
 “ WILLIAM DONALDSON, Lodge No. 224, Danville.
 “ HENRY M. HOYT, Lodge No. 61, Wilkesbarre.
 “ HENRY W. WILLIAMS, Lodge No. 317, Wellsboro’.

Committee on By-Laws :

- BRO. CHARLES H. KINGSTON, Lodge No. 114, Philadelphia.
 “ CHARLES CARY, Lodge No. 368, Philadelphia.
 “ JAMES S. BARBER, Lodge No. 402, Philadelphia.
 “ ISAAC A. SWEIGARD, Lodge No. 409, Pine Grove.
 “ WILLIAM H. DILL, Lodge No. 314, Clearfield.

Committee on Printing and Publishing :

- BRO. LOUIS WAGNER, Lodge No. 52, Philadelphia.
 “ JOSEPH L. LEMBERGER, Lodge No. 226, Lebanon.

BRO. BERNARD E. LEHMAN, Lodge No. 283, Bethlehem.

“ WILLIAM H. BELLOWS, Lodge No. 444, Philadelphia.

“ WILLIAM C. BLELOCH, Lodge No. 126, Philadelphia.

Committee on Temple :

BRO. WILLIAM J. KELLY, Lodge No. 59, Philadelphia.

“ SAMUEL W. WRAY, Lodge No. 121, Philadelphia.

“ HIBBERT P. JOHN, Lodge No. 369, Philadelphia.

“ GODFREY KEEBLER, Lodge No. 487, Philadelphia.

“ EDWARD MATTHEWS, Lodge No. 187, Philadelphia.

Committee on Library :

BRO. CHARLES E. MEYER, Lodge No. 295, Philadelphia.

“ M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ, Lodge No. 125, Philadelphia.

“ EDWARD S. WYCKOFF, Lodge No. 19, Philadelphia.

“ JOHN L. YOUNG, Lodge No. 130, Philadelphia.

“ WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS, Lodge No. 126, Philadelphia.

“ J. FRANK KNIGHT, Lodge No. 271, Philadelphia.

“ H. STANLEY GOODWIN, Lodge No. 283, Bethlehem.

Commissioners of Sinking Fund :

BRO. SAMUEL C. PERKINS, R. Worshipful Past Grand Master.

“ SAMUEL B. DICK, R. Worshipful Past Grand Master.

“ EDWARD T. STEEL, Lodge No. 52, Philadelphia.

“ HENRY M. DECHERT, Lodge No. 274, Philadelphia.

“ BENTON K. JAMISON, Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia.

Almoners of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund:

BROTHER	CHARLES A. AYERS . . .	Lodge No.	2
"	JOSEPH J. WILLIAMS . . .	"	3
"	GEORGE WENNER . . .	"	9
"	WILLIAM H. GARDNER . .	"	19
"	JOHN M. ZOOK . . .	"	51
"	SAMUEL D. RISLEY . . .	"	52
"	AMOS H. HALL . . .	"	59
"	AUSTIN J. MONTGOMERY .	"	67
"	LEWIS N. SCHNIDER . . .	"	71
"	HARRY T. KINGSTON . .	"	72
"	WILLIAM C. MACKIE . . .	"	81
"	J. WARNER HUTCHINS . .	"	91
"	JOHN HIBBITT . . .	"	114
"	CLARENCE E. STEEL . . .	"	115
"	ROBERT SCOTT . . .	"	121
"	OTTO SCHAETTLE . . .	"	125
"	JAMES LANING . . .	"	126
"	ROBERT ARTHUR . . .	"	130
"	ALEX. P. COLESBERRY . .	"	131
"	JACOB W. JACKSON . . .	"	134
"	SAMUEL IRVIN GIVEN . .	"	135
"	GEORGE TURNER . . .	"	155
"	JAMES HALBERSTADT . .	"	158
"	GEORGE F. LEWIS, JR. . .	"	186
"	ALFRED C. STULB . . .	"	187
"	JACOB GLASER . . .	"	211
"	GEORGE WUNDER . . .	"	230
"	ANDREW T. GAYLEY . . .	"	246
"	CHARLES W. RIDGWAY . .	"	271
"	WILLIAM S. DILKS . . .	"	274

BROTHER	WILLIAM J. BARR	Lodge No.	289
"	HARVEY R. MILLER	"	292
"	ROBERT B. SALTER	"	295
"	JOHN R. FANSHAWE	"	296
"	SAMUEL W. GOODMAN	"	359
"	WILLIAM A. COCHRAN	"	368
"	JOSEPH KIMES	"	369
"	JOHN McKINNEY	"	380
"	LOUIS SCHMITT	"	384
"	WILLIAM J. DIVINE	"	385
"	THOMAS S. ROSS	"	386
"	EDWARD J. JAMES	"	393
"	FRANK M. HIGHLEY	"	402
"	JOHN F. RAU	"	419
"	JOHN R. TOBIN	"	432
"	SAMUEL J. DICKEY	"	436
"	ROBERT MACKEY	"	441
"	A. L. EDGERTON CROUTER . .	"	444
"	GEORGE BURWELL	"	449
"	J. GEORGE COPE	"	450
"	GEORGE D. BLOMER	"	453
"	CHARLES W. CARNS	"	456
"	HARMON JOHNSON	"	470
"	GEORGE S. COYNE	"	481
"	JOHN S. McKINLAY	"	482
"	WILLIAM PENN COOPER . . .	"	487
"	JOHN B. PAXTON	"	491
"	ISAAC S. FOGG	"	493
"	DANIEL E. WILSON	"	500
"	MATTHIAS COATS	"	506
"	SAMUEL LAMOND	"	519
"	N. FERREE LIGHTNER	"	527

BROTHER JOHN F. BIRD	Lodge No. 528
“ ISAIAH T. BOSSERT	“ 529

Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund:

BROTHER ROBERT C. FLOYD	Lodge No. 2
“ WALTER H. CULLEN	“ 3
“ JOHN EMSLEY	“ 9
“ JACOB W. DOWLER	“ 19
“ CHARLES J. THOMSON	“ 51
“ WILLIAM H. DICKSON	“ 52
“ JOHN KELLER, JR.	“ 59
“ JOHN W. HASELTINE	“ 67
“ SAMUEL HARRISON	“ 71
“ JAMES B. FOUST	“ 72
“ FREDERICK STOECKLE	“ 81
“ GEORGE L. RAPP	“ 91
“ THOMAS JACOBS	“ 114
“ JOHN GRAHAM	“ 115
“ SAMUEL B. CHAPMAN	“ 121
“ CHARLES PEELER	“ 125
“ GEORGE MYERS	“ 126
“ JOHN H. SHENK	“ 130
“ WILLIAM T. TAYLOR	“ 131
“ CHARLES W. NOLEN	“ 134
“ EDWARD T. ALBURGER	“ 135
“ EDWARD MASSON	“ 155
“ WILLIAM L. TURNER	“ 158
“ BARCLAY J. WOODWARD	“ 186
“ DAVIS L. SYLVESTER	“ 187
“ NICHOLAS SHEPHERD	“ 211
“ JOHN MAIR	“ 230
“ JOHN S. STEVENS	“ 246

BROTHER	SAMUEL DAVIS	Lodge No.	271
"	HARRY K. LEECH	"	274
"	GABRIEL PHILLIPS	"	289
"	JOHN BURNS	"	292
"	BENJAMIN HAYLLAR	"	295
"	JOHN C. DIXON	"	296
"	F. C. CHARLES STROH	"	359
"	JOSEPH P. WYMAN	"	368
"	HENRY S. KELLER	"	369
"	THOMAS C. STOKES	"	380
"	GEORGE BREITTLING, JR.	"	384
"	CHARLES SUMMERFIELD	"	385
"	WILLIAM EISENBROWN	"	386
"	WESLEY FENIMORE	"	393
"	RICHARD McCAMBRIDGE	"	402
"	DAVID A. SCHULER	"	419
"	FREDERICK W. SMITH	"	432
"	G. SICKEL HEADMAN	"	436
"	JAMES McGARVEY	"	441
"	GEORGE OGDEN, JR.	"	444
"	CHARLES C. HALL	"	449
"	J. HENRY HOLCOMB	"	450
"	THOMAS D. CONDIE	"	453
"	AMERICUS R. UNDERDOWN	"	456
"	WILLIAM R. SCHWARTZ	"	470
"	THOMAS A. HARRIS	"	481
"	WILLIAM HENRY SIMPSON	"	482
"	HENRY R. COULOMB	"	487
"	JOHN L. BENZON	"	491
"	JOHN L. BULLOCK	"	493
"	WARDER H. JANNEY	"	500
"	FRED K. WOMRATH	"	506

BROTHER CHARLES C. JUDD	Lodge No. 519
“ WILLIAM H. SNOWDEN	“ 527
“ ARTHUR A. MUTH	“ 528
“ JOHN A. HUEY	“ 529

District Deputy Grand Masters :

- 1.—Brother ANDREW J. KAUFFMAN, of Columbia, for the County of Lancaster.
- 2.—Brother WILLIAM B. LAMBERTON, of Harrisburg, for the Counties of Dauphin, Northumberland, and Montour.
- 3.—Brother JOHN G. BOBB, of Carlisle, for the Counties of Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, and Adams.
- 4.—Brother ISAAC A. ELLIOTT, of York, for the County of York.
- 5.—Brother FRANK P. HOUSEKEEPER, of Coatesville, for the Counties of Delaware and Chester, except Lodges Nos. 75, 446, 553.
- 6.—Brother THADDEUS S. ADLE, of Norristown, for the County of Montgomery (except Lodges Nos. 308, 400, and 410), and for Lodges Nos. 75, 446, and 553 in Chester County.
- 7.—Brother HENRY A. TYSON, of Reading, for the Counties of Berks and Lebanon.
- 8.—Brother BENJAMIN F. GILKESON, of Bristol, for the County of Bucks, and for Lodges Nos. 308, 400, and 410, in Montgomery County.
- 9.—Brother MANSFIELD MERRIMAN, of Bethlehem, for the Counties of Northampton and Monroe.

- 10.—Brother LAIRD H. BARBER, of Mauch Chunk, for the Counties of Carbon and Lehigh, and Lodge No. 327 in Luzerne County.
- 11.—Brother CHRISTOPHER LITTLE, of Pottsville, for the Counties of Schuylkill and Columbia, except Lodge No. 462.
- 12.—Brother SAMUEL L. FRENCH, of Plymouth, for the County of Luzerne (except Lodge No. 327), and for Lodge No. 462 in Columbia County.
- 13.—Brother ASA B. STEVENS, of Hyde Park, for the County of Lackawanna, and Lodges Nos. 341 and 438 in Wyoming County.
- 14.—Brother ELBERT P. JONES, of Ariel, for the Counties of Wayne and Pike.
- 15.—Brother DAVID C. AINEY, of New Milford, for the County of Susquehanna.
- 16.—Brother CHARLES E. RIGGS, of Canton, for the Counties of Bradford and Sullivan, and Lodges Nos. 248 and 263 in Wyoming County.
- 17.—Brother AARON R. NILES, of Wellsboro', for the County of Tioga.
- 18.—Brother FREDERICK H. KELLER, of Williamsport, for the Counties of Lycoming, Clinton, Union, and Snyder.
- 19.—Brother EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Thompsonstown, for the Counties of Perry, Juniata, and Mifflin.

- 20.—Brother JOHN H. DIBERT, of Johnstown, for the Counties of Huntingdon, Bedford, Blair, and Cambria.
- 21.—Brother ELIAS W. HALE, of Bellefonte, for the Counties of Centre and Clearfield.
- 22.—Brother CHARLES L. WHEELER, of Bradford, for the Counties of Potter, McKean, Cameron, and Elk.
- 23.—Brother CALEB C. THOMPSON, of Warren, for the Counties of Warren, Venango, and Forest.
- 24.—Brother JOHN J. WADSWORTH, of Erie, for the County of Erie.
- 25.—Brother MYRON PARK DAVIS, of Meadville, for the County of Crawford.
- 26.—Brother MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, of Sharon, for the Counties of Mercer, Lawrence, and Beaver.
- 27.—Brother WILLIAM B. MEREDITH, of Kittanning, for the Counties of Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, and Jefferson.
- 28.—Brother GETER C. SHIDLE, of Pittsburgh, for the County of Allegheny.
- 29.—Brother JAMES W. McDOWELL, of Washington, for the Counties of Washington and Greene.
- 30.—Brother IRVIN McFARLAND, of Indiana, for the Counties of Westmoreland and Indiana.
- 31.—Brother GEORGE H. SUHRIE, of Meyersdale, for the Counties of Fayette and Somerset.

The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary was pleased to appoint Brother CHARLES H. KINGSTON as Deputy Grand Secretary, which was approved by Grand Lodge.

An appeal was received from ———, appealing from the action of Grand Lodge in expelling him from Lodge No. 75 and the rights and privileges of Freemasonry.

Referred to Committee on Appeals.

Grand Lodge closed in harmony at 1 o'clock 45 minutes P.M.

Michael Nisbet
Grand Secretary

A TABULAR STATEMENT

Of the Lodges included in each District, with the name and residence of each District Deputy Grand Master. The Lodges in the County of Philadelphia are under the direct supervision of the Right Worshipful Grand Master.

District.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	Lodge.		LOCATION OF LODGE.	
			Name.	No.	City or Town.	County.
			2	Philadelphia	Philadelphia.
			3	"	"
			9	"	"
			Montgomery.....	19	"	"
			51	"	"
			Harmony.....	52	"	"
			Washington.....	59	"	"
			Concordia.....	67	"	"
			La Fayette.....	71	"	"
			Philadelphia.....	72	"	"
			Hiram.....	81	Chestnut Hill.....	"
			Columbia.....	91	Philadelphia	"
			Solomon's.....	114	"	"
			St. John's.....	115	"	"
			Union.....	121	"	"
			Hermann.....	125	"	"
			Rising Star.....	126	"	"
			Phoenix.....	130	"	"
			Industry.....	131	"	"

District.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	LODGE.		LOCATION OF LODGE.	
			Name.	No.	City or Town.	County.
			Franklin.....	134	Philadelphia	Philadelphia.
			Roxborough.....	135	Manayunk.....	"
			Mount Moriah.....	155	Philadelphia	"
			Meridian Sun.....	158	"	"
			Eastern Star.....	186	"	"
			Integrity.....	187	"	"
			Kensington.....	211	"	"
			Richmond.....	230	"	"
			Shekinah	246	"	"
			Keystone	271	"	"
			Hamilton.....	274	West Philadelphia...	"
			Orient.....	289	Philadelphia	"
			Frankford	292	Frankford.....	"
			Melita.....	295	Philadelphia	"
			Mitchell.....	296	Germantown	"
			Humboldt.....	359	Philadelphia	"
			Corinthian	368	"	"
			Williamson.....	369	"	"
			Pennsylvania.....	380	"	"
			Richard Vaux.....	384	"	"
			Oriental	385	"	"
			Apollo.....	386	"	"
			Vaux	393	"	"
			Perkins.....	402	"	"
			Wm. B. Schnider.....	419	"	"
			432	"	"
			Mozart.....	436	"	"

1	Andrew J. Kauffman....	Columbia, Lancaster Co..	Potter.....	441	Philadelphia	Philadelphia.
			Philo	444	"	"
			Ivanhoe.....	449	"	"
			Stephen Girard.....	450	"	"
			Welcome.....	453	"	"
			Covenant.....	456	"	"
			Palestine.....	470	Falls of Schuylkill...	"
			St. Paul.....	481	Philadelphia	"
			Athelstan.....	482	"	"
			Robt. A. Lamberton..	487	"	"
			Excelsior	491	"	"
			Crescent.....	493	"	"
			Wm. C. Hamilton....	500	"	"
			Jerusalem.....	506	Frankford.....	"
			Gothic.....	519	Philadelphia	"
			Philates.....	527	"	"
			Mount Horeb.....	528	"	"
			St. Alban.....	529	"	"
			.....	43	Lancaster.....	Lancaster.
			Washington.....	156	Drumore Centre.....	"
			Columbia.....	286	Columbia	"
			Ashara.....	398	Marietta.....	"
			Christiana	417	Christiana.....	"
			Lamberton.....	476	Lancaster	"
			Charles M. Howell...	496	Safe Harbor.....	"
			Casiphia.....	551	Mount Joy.....	"
			Perseverance	21	Harrisburg.....	Dauphin.
			Susquehanna.....	364	Millersburg.....	"
			Robert Burns.....	464	Harrisburg	"
			Prince Edwin.....	486	Middletown	"
			Danville.....	224	Danville.....	Montour.
			Maboning.....	516	"	"
2	William B. Lamberton.	Harrisburg, Dauphin Co..				

District.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	LODGE.		LOCATION OF LODGE.	
			Name.	No.	City or Town.	County.
3	John G. Bobb.....	Carlisle, Cumberland Co..	.....	22	Sunbury.....	Northumberland.
			Shamokin	255	Shamokin.....	"
			Milton.....	256	Milton	"
			Mount Carmel.....	378	Mount Carmel.....	"
			Watson town.....	401	Watson town.....	"
			Eureka.....	404	Northumberland.....	"
			Elysburg.....	414	Elysburg.....	"
			Cumberland Star.....	197	Carlisle.....	Cumberland.
			St. John's....	260	"	"
			Eureka.....	302	Mechanicsburg.....	"
			Cumberland Valley..	315	Shippensburg	"
			Big Spring.....	361	Newville.....	"
			George Washington..	143	Chambersburg.....	Franklin.
			Orrstown	262	Orrstown.....	"
			Mount Pisgah	443	Green Castle	"
			Good Samaritan	336	Gettysburg	Adams.
4	Isaac A. Elliott.....	York, York Co.....	Hebron.....	465	York Springs.....	"
			York.....	266	York.....	York.
			Patmos.....	348	Hanover.....	"
			Shrewsbury.....	423	Shrewsbury.....	"
			Zeredatha	451	York.....	"
5	Frank P. Housekeeper..	Coatesville, Chester Co....	Riverside.....	503	Wrightsville.....	"
			Chester.....	236	Chester.....	Delaware.
			George W. Bartram..	298	Media.....	"
			L. H. Scott.....	352	Chester.....	"
			Fernwood.....	543	Fernwood.....	"
			Williamson.....	309	Downingtown.....	Chester.

6	Thaddeus S. Adle.....	Norristown, Montg'y Co.	West Chester.....	322	West Chester.....	Chester.
			Thomson	340	Green Tree.....	"
7	Henry A. Tyson.....	Reading, Berks Co.....	Skerratt	343	Cochransville.....	"
			Oxford.....	353	Oxford.....	"
8	Benjamin F. Gilkeson...	Bristol, Bucks Co.....	Goddard.....	383	Coatesville.....	"
			Howell.....	405	Honeybrook.....	"
			Kennett	475	Kennett Square.....	"
			New London.....	545	New London.....	"
			Charity	190	Norristown	Montgomery.
			Stichter.....	254	Pottstown.....	"
			Cassia	273	Ardmore.....	"
			Warren.....	310	Trappe	"
			Fritz.....	420	Conshohocken.....	"
			Shiloh.....	558	Lansdale.....	"
			Phoenix.....	75	Phoenixville.....	Chester.
			Mount Piekering.....	446	Upper Uwehlan.....	"
			Spring City.....	553	Spring City.....	"
			.....	62	Reading	Berks.
			Chandler.....	227	"	"
			Williamson.....	307	Womelsdorf.....	"
			Teutonia.....	367	Reading	"
			Huguenot.....	377	Kutztown.....	"
			Vaux	406	Hamburg	"
			St. John's.....	435	Reading	"
			Union.....	479	Morgantown.....	"
			Reading	549	Reading	"
			Mount Lebanon.....	226	Lebanon.....	Lebanon.
			Bristol.....	25	Bristol	Bucks.
			Doylestown.....	245	Doylestown	"
			Newtown.....	427	Newtown.....	"
			Quakertown	512	Quakertown.....	"
			Fort Washington.....	308	Fort Washington....	Montgomery.

District.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	LODGE.		LOCATION OF LODGE.	
			Name.	No.	City or Town.	County.
9	Mansfield Merriman.....	Bethlehem, N'th'pton Co.	Friendship.....	400	Jenkintown.....	Montgomery.
			W. K. Bray.....	410	Hatboro'.....	"
			Easton.....	152	Easton.....	Northampton.
			Bethlehem.....	283	Bethlehem.....	"
			Mount Bethel.....	311	Mount Bethel.....	"
			Dallas.....	396	Easton.....	"
			Manoquesy.....	413	Bath.....	"
			Hellertown.....	563	Hellertown.....	"
			Barger.....	325	Stroudsburg.....	Monroe.
			Carbon.....	242	Mauch Chunk.....	Carbon.
10	Laird H. Barber.....	Mauch Chunk, Carbon Co.	Porter.....	284	Catasauqua.....	Lehigh.
			Lehigh.....	326	Trexlerstown.....	"
			Barger.....	333	Allentown.....	"
			Slatington.....	440	Slatington.....	"
			Saucon.....	469	Coopersburg.....	"
			Greenleaf.....	561	Allentown.....	"
			Hazle.....	327	Hazleton.....	Luzerne.
			Schuylkill.....	138	Orwigsburg.....	Schuylkill.
			Pulaski.....	216	Pottsville.....	"
			.....	222	Minersville.....	"
11	Christopher Little.....	Pottsville, Schuylkill Co.	Tamaqua.....	238	Tamaqua.....	"
			Swatara.....	267	Tremont.....	"
			Page.....	270	Schuylkill Haven....	"
			Anthracite.....	285	St. Clair.....	"
			Ashland.....	294	Ashland.....	"
			Mahanoy City.....	357	Mahanoy City.....	"
			Pine Grove.....	409	Pine Grove.....	"

12	Samuel L. French.....	Plymouth, Luzerne Co...	Cressona..... Shenandoah..... Washington..... Catawissa..... Oriental..... St. John's..... Plymouth..... Sylvania..... Kingston..... Landmark..... Laurel..... Wyoming..... Coalville..... Valley..... George M. Dallas..... Nanticoke..... Knapp..... Carbondale..... Hiram..... Union..... Waverly..... Peter Williamson..... Hyde Park..... Schiller..... Kingsbury..... Moscow..... Aurora..... Factoryville..... Nicholson..... Honesdale..... Hawley.....	426 511 265 349 460 61 233 332 354 395 442 467 468 474 499 531 541 462 249 261 291 301 323 339 345 466 504 523 341 438 218 305	Cressona..... Shenandoah..... Bloomsburg..... Catawissa..... Orangeville..... Wilkes-Barre..... Pittston..... Plymouth..... Shickshinny..... Kingston..... Wilkes-Barre... White Haven..... Wyoming..... Ashley..... West Pittston..... Dallas..... Nanticoke..... Berwick..... Carbondale..... Scranton..... "..... Waverly..... Scranton..... Hyde Park..... Scranton..... Olyphant..... Moscow..... Jermyn..... Factoryville..... Nicholson..... Honesdale..... Hawley.....	Schuylkill. " Columbia. " " Luzerne. " " " " " " " " " Columbia. Lackawanna. " " " " " " " " Wyoming. " Wayne. "
13	Asa B. Stevens.....	Hyde Park, Lackaw'a Co.				
14	Elbert P. Jones.....	Ariel, Wayne Co.....				

District.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	LODGE.		LOCATION OF LODGE.	
			Name.	No.	City or Town.	County.
15	David C. Ainey.....	New Milford, Susq'a Co..	Salem	330	Hamlington.....	Wayne.
			Mount Hermon.....	472	Pleasant Mount.....	"
			Waymart.....	542	Waymart.....	"
			Milford	344	Milford.....	Pike.
			Warren.....	240	Montrose.....	Susquehanna.
			Freedom... ..	328	Jackson.....	"
			Great Bend....	338	Great Bend.....	"
			Canawacta.....	360	Susquehanna Depot..	"
			Harford	445	Harford.....	"
			New Milford.....	507	New Milford.....	"
			Rural Amity.....	70	Athens	Bradford.
			Union.....	108	Towanda.....	"
			Evergreen	163	Monroeton.....	"
			Trojan.....	306	Troy	"
			Canton	415	Canton	"
16	Charles E. Riggs.....	Canton, Bradford Co.....	Roman	418	Rome.....	"
			Smithfield	428	East Smithfield.....	"
			LeRays.....	471	LeRaysville	"
			Dushore	387	Dushore	Sullivan.
			Temple.....	248	Tunkhannock	Wyoming.
			Franklin.....	263	Laceyville.....	"
			Friendship.....	247	Mansfield.....	Tioga.
			Ossea.....	317	Wellsboro'	"
			Bloss.....	350	Blossburg.....	"
			Cowanesque	351	Knoxville.....	"
			Tioga.....	373	Tioga.....	"
			Osceola.....	421	Osceola.....	"
17	Aaron R. Niles.....	Wellsboro', Tioga Co.....				

18	Frederick H. Keller.....	Williamsport, Lyco'g Co.	Westfield..... La Belle Valle..... Muncy..... Eureka..... Ivy..... Charity..... Mifflinburg..... La Fayette..... La Fayette..... Renovo..... Adams..... Newport..... Perry..... Lewistown..... McVeytown..... Union..... Lamberton..... Cambria..... Summit..... Johnstown..... Mount Moriah..... Portage..... Mountain..... Juniata..... Logan..... Tyrone..... Bedford..... Everett..... Woodbury..... Bellefonte..... Moshannon.....	477 106 232 299 335 397 144 370 194 199 495 319 381 458 203 376 324 371 278 312 538 300 220 281 282 490 494 320 524 539 268 391	Westfield..... Williamsport..... Jersey Shore..... Muncy Borough..... Montoursville..... Williamsport..... Lewisburg..... Mifflinburg..... Selin's Grove..... Lock Haven..... Renovo..... New Bloomfield..... Newport..... Marysville..... Lewistown..... McVeytown..... Mifflintown..... Thompsonstown..... Johnstown..... Ebensburg..... Johnstown..... Huntingdon..... Hollidaysburg..... Altoona..... Hollidaysburg..... Altoona..... Tyrone..... Bedford..... Everett Borough..... Woodbury..... Bellefonte..... Phillipsburg.....	Tioga. Lycoming. " " " " Union. " Snyder. Clinton. " Perry. " " Mifflin. " Juniata. " Cambria. " " Huntingdon. Blair. " " " " Bedford. " " Centre. "
19	Edgar A. Tennis.....	Thompsonstown, Juni'a Co.				
20	John H. Dibert.....	Johnstown, Cambria Co...				
21	Elias W. Hale.....	Bellefonte, Centre Co.....				

District.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	LODGE.		LOCATION OF LODGE.	
			Name.	No.	City or Town.	County.
22	Charles L. Wheeler.....	Bradford, McKean Co.....	Old Fort.....	537	Centre Hall.....	Centre.
			Clearfield.....	314	Clearfield.....	Clearfield.
			Noble.....	480	Curwensville.....	"
			Osceola.....	515	Osceola Borough.....	"
			Garfield.....	559	DuBois.....	"
			Union.....	334	Bradford.....	McKean.
			McKean.....	388	Smethport.....	"
			Liberty.....	505	Port Allegany.....	"
			Northern Star.....	555	Duke Centre.....	"
			.....	560	Eldred.....	"
			Emporium.....	382	Emporium.....	Cameron.
			Driftwood.....	532	Driftwood.....	"
			Eulalia.....	342	Coudersport.....	Potter.
			Lewisville.....	556	Lewisville.....	"
			Elk.....	379	Ridgway.....	Elk.
			North Star.....	241	Warren.....	Warren.
			Columbus.....	264	Columbus.....	"
23	Caleb C. Thompson.....	Warren, Warren Co.....	Temple.....	412	Tidioute.....	"
			Stillwater.....	547	Sugar Grove.....	"
			Myrtle.....	316	Franklin.....	Venango.
			Petrolia.....	363	Oil City.....	"
			Fraternal.....	483	Rouseville.....	"
			Pleasantville.....	501	Pleasantville.....	"
			Allegheny Valley.....	552	Emlenton.....	"
			Olive.....	557	Tionesta.....	Forest.
			Western Star.....	304	Albion.....	Erie.
			Lake Erie.....	347	Girard.....	"
24	John J. Wadsworth.....	Erie, Erie Co.....				

25	Myron Park Davis.....	Tyrian	362	Erie.....	Erie.
		Corry	365	Corry.....	"
		Eureka.....	366	Union City	"
		Perry	392	Erie.....	"
		North East.....	399	North East.....	"
		Oasis.....	416	Edinboro'.....	"
		Waterford.....	425	Waterford.....	"
		Keystone.....	455	Erie.....	"
		Wattsburg.....	533	Wattsburg.....	Crawford.
		Crawford.....	234	Meadville.....	
		Western Crawford...	258	Conncautville.....	
		Oil Creek.....	303	Titusville.....	
		Spartan.....	372	Spartansburg	"
		.....	408	Meadville.....	"
		Shepherd	463	Titusville.....	"
		Covenant.....	473	Cambridge Borough.	"
		Pine.....	498	Linesville.....	"
	Matthias H. Henderson. Sharon, Mercer Co.....	Mahoning	243	New Castle.....	Lawrence.
		Lodge of the Craft....	433	"	"
		Sharon.....	250	Sharon	Mercer.
		Eureka.....	290	Greenville	"
		Kedron.....	389	West Middlesex.....	"
		Adelphic	424	Jamestown.....	"
		Lake.....	434	Sandy Lake.....	"
		Sharpsville.....	517	Sharpsville	"
		Rochester.....	229	Rochester.....	Beaver.
		Union.....	259	New Brighton.....	"
27	William B. Meredith.....	Meridian	411	Darlington.....	"
		St. James.....	457	Beaver.....	"
		Beaver Valley.....	478	Beaver Falls.....	"
		Glasgow.	485	Smith's Ferry.....	"
		Butler.....	272	Butler.....	Butler.

District.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	LODGE.		LOCATION OF LODGE.	
			Name.	No.	City or Town.	County.
28	Geter C. Shidle.....	Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co.	Harmony.....	429	Harmony.....	Butler.
			Argyle.....	540	Petrolia.....	"
			Kittanning.....	244	Kittanning.....	Armstrong.
			Apollo.....	437	Apollo.....	"
			Parker City.....	521	Parker City.....	"
			Hobah.....	276	Brookville.....	Jefferson.
			John W. Jenks.....	534	Punxsatawney.....	"
			John M. Read.....	536	Reynoldsville.....	"
			Clarion.....	277	Clarion.....	Clarion.
			Canby.....	520	St. Petersburg.....	"
			New Bethlehem.....	522	New Bethlehem.....	"
			.....	550	Edenburgh.....	"
			.....	45	Pittsburgh.....	Allegheny.
			St. John's.....	219	"	"
			Franklin.....	221	"	"
			Allegheny.....	223	Allegheny City.....	"
			Solomon's.....	231	Pittsburgh.....	"
			Washington.....	253	"	"
			Monongahela.....	269	"	"
			Milnor.....	287	"	"
			Jefferson.....	288	Allegheny City.....	"
			McKinley.....	318	"	"
			Hailman.....	321	East Liberty.....	"
			Davage.....	374	Allegheny City.....	"
			Aliquippa.....	375	McKeesport.....	"
			McCandless.....	390	Pittsburgh.....	"
			Stuckrath.....	430	Allegheny.....	"

District.	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	LODGE.		LOCATION OF LODGE.	
			Name.	No.	City or Town.	County.
31	George H. Suhrie.....	Meyersdale, Somerset Co.	Brownsville.....	60	Brownsville	Fayette.
			Fayette.....	228	Uniontown.....	"
			Gummert.....	252	Fayette City.....	"
			King Solomon.....	346	Connellsville.....	"
			Valley.....	459	Masontown.....	"
			Somerseset.....	358	Somerseset	Somerseset.
			Meyersdale.....	554	Meyersdale	"

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE,
FOR 1885.

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE,
FOR 1885.

TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE:

THE COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE, viz.: the Hon. PEARSON CHURCH, of Lodge No. 408; Brother WILLIAM DONALDSON, of Lodge No. 224; Hon. HENRY M. HOYT, of Lodge No. 61; Hon. HENRY W. WILLIAMS, of Lodge No. 317,

by its *Chairman*, RICHARD VAUX, Past Grand Master,
respectfully reports.

Right Worshipful Past Grand Master MICHAEL NISBET, Grand Secretary of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, has sent to your Committee on Correspondence the Proceedings of the following Grand Lodges, viz.:

ALABAMA	1884	MISSISSIPPI	1885
ARIZONA	1884	MARYLAND	1884-85
ARKANSAS	1884	MONTANA	1884-85
BRITISH COLUMBIA	1885	NEW BRUNSWICK	1884-85
CALIFORNIA	1884	NEW HAMPSHIRE	1885
COLORADO	1885	NEW JERSEY	1885
CANADA	1884-85	NEW YORK	1885
CONNECTICUT	1885	NEW MEXICO	1883-84
DAKOTA	1885	NORTH CAROLINA	1884-85
DELAWARE	1884-85	NOVA SCOTIA	1884
ENGLAND	1884-85	NEBRASKA	1885
FLORIDA	1884-85	OREGON	1884-85
IDAHO	1885	OHIO	1884
ILLINOIS	1885	PRINCE EDW'D ISLAND	1885
INDIANA	1885	RHODE ISLAND	1883-84
IOWA	1885	SCOTLAND	1884-85
IRELAND	1885	SOUTH CAROLINA	1884
KANSAS	1885	TENNESSEE	1885
KENTUCKY	1885	TEXAS	1883-84
MAINE	1885	UTAH	1885
MASSACHUSETTS	1884-85	VERMONT	1885
MICHIGAN	1885	VIRGINIA	1884
MANITOBA	1885	WASHINGTON	1885
MISSOURI	1885	WISCONSIN	1885
MINNESOTA	1885	WYOMING	1884

In humble acknowledgment of the mercy of God, we again, dear Brethren of the Committees of Correspondence of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons with which the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania holds fraternal relations, offer you our earnest and sincere fraternal salutations.

The Proceedings which we have received present the evidence of that harmony and prosperity in the Craft which is, and ever should be the test of obedience to the principles of Freemasonry.

From the marked diversities arising from influences social, communital, and geographical, in the condition of society, it might be expected that like differences would exist in the Craft, which more or less express themselves in the Proceedings of Grand Lodges. But so far no such result has manifested itself. So long as the Brethren are animated with a devotion to the Landmarks, usages, and customs of Freemasonry, and a determination to support and maintain them, there never can be either diversity or difference in the tiled Lodge.

In this, Freemasonry is without a parallel. The profane world may be agitated and divided on questions of policy or interest. In the Masonic family these questions cannot be considered.

Society is governed by no imperative and unchangeable laws.

Whatever is its rule of action to-day may be changed to-morrow. Its very foundations are perishable. The motives and interests which operate with the force of what is called public opinion, like the vigor of the storm-wind, die exhausted. A calm follows till a new agitation begins. This unrest is the mark of profane association. Its causes need not be explained. The fact exists. It proves itself.

But in the Masonic commonwealth this unrest cannot live. The Freemason leaves at the portal of Freemasonry every

profane element or agency that can disturb the harmony, attack the unity, excite discord, or divide the Fraternity. So it ever has been. So it is now. So it ever will be while Freemasons live in obedience to the principles which they voluntarily accept and agree to be bound by, when they seek *to be made Freemasons*.

The power of this self-imposed obedience is life-long. At every meeting of a Lodge this obedience is reiterated as the rule and guide of the Mason's conduct, the basis of his action, the object of his love, reverence, and respect. He could no more hope to be beyond its reach than to be able to renounce his obligation to it.

The ties that thus bind are indissoluble. No human authority can loose them. Neither Pope nor Parliament can absolve from obedience to them. They were not made or entered into from idle curiosity, or from the inducements of proselytes, or from any other than the truest, most sincere, and purest motives. God, in His omniscience and omnipresence and omnipotence, was invoked to make them sacred and indestructible.

How, then, can it be otherwise in this great, glorious, ancient, and honorable Fraternity? Peace and harmony must live and govern in our Lodges. Thus it is that our Fraternity has withstood all the opposition it has met in the ages that are past.

So, too, it will continue in the future.

It is our heritage. We of the Craft to-day have so received it. We are bound so to preserve and conserve it. The

generations to come hold us of to-day responsible and accountable for this high trust. Every true Mason knows, believes, feels, understands, this duty. It will be performed. No jot or tittle shall ever be changed.

If so be from any calamity, or destructive or destroying power, schism seeks to come to the Craft; or from hostile forces within, blind and denying truth, rioting in blasphemy, false to every dictate of faith and honor, our sublime Institution might be put in peril, its traditions obscured, or its foundations weakened, this unpardonable crime recorded on the page of Masonic history will be blotted out by the tears of Faith, Hope, and Charity. The legend written on that page so purified, will be in letters of light,—*Freemasonry is indestructible*.

We are gratified to observe from all the reviews of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania that this jurisdiction continues to receive the respect of the Fraternity.

The addresses of Grand Master DAY and our present Grand Master, Prof. E. COPPÉE MITCHELL, LL.D., are regarded with marked favor. It is pleasant to know that the Fraternity recognizes the ability which marks the administration of our Oriental chair. Our position on Masonic law and jurisdiction is deemed worthy of the confidence of the Craft.

There are questions of the law of our jurisdiction which attract notice and comment. They are, however, subject only to the regulations of our own *Ahiman Rezon*, and hence, by reason of this fact, are regarded as not in harmony with

the understanding given to such cases in other Grand Lodges. In our Constitution no rule is established which by any forced construction violates the Landmarks of Masonry. Our customs, or the usages of our Grand Lodge, are binding on our Brethren. We obey scrupulously, without evasion or mental reservation, the fundamental ancient law of the Fraternity. It is no unseemly boast, if we ever could indulge in such vainglory, that it may be said, Pennsylvania has not in any action of her Grand Lodge introduced into the body of Masonry any novelty,—a departure from, or innovation in the accepted structure on which Freemasonry rests.

It has been suggested by our Brethren of other jurisdictions that Pennsylvania is too conservative. When in our last report we stated Pennsylvania stands still, the remark has been noticed as though she was not abreast of the progress of the age. She is not. In this she glories. She encourages no novelties. She permits no innovations. She defends with all her Masonic heart and mind and strength the established, as it is established. She feels that safety, security, repose, unity, harmony, and the perpetuity of her Grand Lodge depend on the care and caution with which all Masonic questions are considered and disposed of. If Pennsylvania is guilty of making haste in any important Masonic subject, it is to make haste slowly. She has never yet had cause to repent it. In the century and a half of the existence of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania no disturbing element in Masonic harmony has ever originated within her jurisdiction.

What is understood by the term “progress” in the profane

world has no place in Freemasonry. Masonic light and knowledge come from the East, and the East is the changeless home of the sunrise. That light does extend its rays into dark places and to unenlightened minds. We hope it ever will. But that is not *progress*. It is truth increasing its boundaries and enlarging its circumference. Truth in natural science, in ethical science, in justice, truth wherever existing, is always truth. It never changes its nature or its character. It cannot "progress" from a part to the whole. In itself it is an entirety. Out of a truth cannot be evolved a contradiction of itself. So of Freemasonry.

We have had occasion to notice the action of some of our Sister Grand Lodges when recognizing so-called Masonic bodies claiming to be Grand Lodges of our Craft.

Such action is to be governed in a greater or less degree by the judgment of each jurisdiction. But we venture most respectfully to remark that incautious or unnecessary haste may lead to mistakes that have a decided influence on the universal Craft.

Recognizing a body as a Grand Lodge of Freemasons involves the introduction into the Masonic family of a member entitled to all the rights and privileges of so august a relation. If such a member so united is not bound by the essential principles which make such a position possible, then all suffer from whatever errors or mischiefs may arise from this association.

If perchance one may disregard a Landmark as not progressive enough to suit the whims or caprices of its constitu-

ents, then one at least of these essential principles is ignored or denied. A man without a leg, or an arm, may claim to be a Mason because he was so made in one of those progressive bodies. As "woman's rights" is now an *ism* in profane progress, might it not happen that one of these bodies hastily associated without due caution, into the family of Grand Lodges might make a woman a Mason in the bravado of its disregard of the old fogysm of the past? What then?

Or it may be, and this is most likely to happen, that three or more Lodges desiring to possess the style, rank, and title of a Grand Lodge, should organize such a body within a territorial or geographical boundary in which many other associations claiming to be Lodges of Freemasons carry on their work. These disagree to the action of the Lodges so acting. Another Grand Lodge may be organized. It may be thereafter a third is established.

Here is discord. Which is to be recognized?

If unfortunately from the want of full information one is recognized, how are the Grand Lodges of the Masonic family to act?

This may be an exaggeration of any supposed condition of things. It is only worth considering as suggesting trouble that incaution, undue haste, or want of a patient investigation of all the facts, may create.

Make haste slowly, this is the best rule.

We humbly venture thus to speak for the only purpose of preventing troubles it may be difficult to cure.

We have under the caption *England*—1885 given some information that has a bearing on this subject. We regard the extracts there printed of importance in considering the general questions under notice.

The proclamation of Most Worshipful E. R. JOHNSON, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, sent to our Grand Lodge, deserves notice. In that jurisdiction certain Lodges holding allegiance by their charters to Grand Lodges foreign to the jurisdiction of Quebec, refuse to recognize its Masonic authority. The Grand Lodge of Quebec regards these Lodges as clandestine, and has forbidden its members to have any Masonic relations with them. This we cordially approve as the only course the dignity and supremacy of the Grand Lodge of Quebec can adopt. No other course is possible till the difficulty is adjusted by these Lodges surrendering their charters and accepting the authority of the Grand Lodge of Quebec and taking charters from her authority.

It will be observed that in commenting upon the transactions of our Sister Grand Lodges, we have abstained from all mention of subjects which arose out of the particular constitution or rules which govern these bodies. Such matters are purely domestic. It is none of our business to interfere or intermeddle with the course Grand Lodges may deem it proper to pursue in these cases.

When questions are involved in Grand Lodge action which are of interest to the Craft of all jurisdictions, we feel that it is a duty to notice them.

It has been suggested by one or two Grand Lodges, that as

Reports of Committees on Foreign Correspondence are not the official acts of those Grand Lodges, they are of no paramount Masonic interest. The notion appears to be that, lacking such official endorsement of Grand Lodges, they only represent the individual opinion of the authors of these Reports.

Such a view of these annual papers is a narrow conception of their Masonic value.

So far as the authority which attaches to Reports of Committees on Correspondence, it may be said, that a Grand Master ought to appoint a chairman of this Committee whose long service, large experience, sound sense, and undoubted Masonic knowledge would be a guarantee that he was the acknowledged exponent of the opinions of his Masonic jurisdiction.

Is there a Grand Lodge, which would not promptly accept Right Worshipful Brothers Drummond, Simons, Parvin, Pillans, Vincent, Richards, Wheeler [or the senior member of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence's] views on questions of general Masonic interest? Besides, Brethren of subordinate Lodges find very valuable information in reading those Reports from other Grand Lodges than their own. Members of Lodges who read the Report of their own Committee are enabled to understand what are those Masonic matters of moment in other jurisdictions.

We have received from Past Grand Master, Right Worshipful MICHAEL NISBET, Grand Secretary, several pamphlets purporting to be from bodies claiming to be Grand Lodges or Grand Orients. These are not here named, as we are satisfied at this time not to consider them.

It is a very delicate duty to determine the *status* of these several bodies.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has ever regarded it the wisest and safest course fully to comprehend the bases on which such bodies claim Masonic recognition.

The symbolic degrees represented in Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons are within the exclusive control of such Grand Lodges. It cannot be possible, therefore, to acknowledge a body as a Masonic Grand Lodge which has neither the power nor the courage to defend this primary organic principle of Masonic law within its jurisdiction. If it is in partnership with any other organization which asserts the same power and authority, it is not a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. Therefore we cannot stultify ourselves while asserting this principle, to compromise it.

ALABAMA—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of the Sixty-fourth Annual Grand Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama, held in the new Masonic Temple, in the city of Montgomery, Monday, December 1, 1884.

Most Worshipful JOHN HOLLIS BANKHEAD, Grand Master, in the chair. He delivered an address of sound, practical good sense.

We make the following extract :

“Freemasonry, viewed from the exterior, presents no marked excellencies which are not possessed by numerous other associations. Those only who have entered into the most secret recesses of the Temple, and beheld its beauties, and read its symbols, and studied their hidden meaning, can fully distinguish it from all other human organizations; and to him who has been thus fortunate, the spirit of inspiration it breathes must always remain without a rival in his affections.

“You would not be here if you did not love and practise the teachings of Freemasonry. You have come up after another year’s labor in the quarries to bring the stones you have prepared, to be tried by the square of the Master Workman, that they may be received as proper material to go into the Temple, or rejected as unfit for the builder’s use.

“I warn you, my Brethren, that none but the best and truest work should be received, because the beauty and grandeur of the Temple will be marred by the use of any material improperly finished or unskilfully adjusted.

“It must be remembered that when a Brother presents the name of an applicant for initiation into the Masonic fraternity, that he presents a stone that must go into the Temple, if not rejected by the workmen when the square, the level, and plumb shall be applied. No Brother should ever so far forget his duty to the Brotherhood as to present a stone that is not finished in the highest degree.

“Every one offered should be hewn from the finest Parian marble, because our Order is in no sense of the word an institution organized for the purpose of reforming men; and I greatly fear that some are influenced to seek admission within our portals from selfish purposes, believing, perhaps, that they themselves will be benefited rather than a desire to benefit others. No man is fit to be made a Mason until his desire to do good to others exceeds his own selfish designs.”

The Grand Lodge appears to be in a most flourishing condition. The Committee on Jurisprudence did not make a report on Brother Hall's proposition, “Can a candidate for the mysteries who has a stiff knee be made a Mason?” The resolution, however, requiring a history of Masonry in the jurisdiction was opposed. Appropriate action was taken in commemoration of the fraternal dead, to which the Grand Master referred in his address.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of our Right Worshipful Brother P. J. PILLANS. We are happy again to welcome his calm, clear, and concise review of the action of the Grand Lodges which has claimed his attention. Brother PILLANS has extracted from the reports of the Grand Lodge Committees on Correspondence their most important parts and cleverly edited the review.

We would be happy to more fully notice the very admirable report of our distinguished Brother, but we in truth have not the space to give to so interesting a study. We cannot refrain, however, from congratulating the Craft of Alabama on the able Chairman of this Grand Lodge Committee. We ask our distinguished Brother to accept our most fraternal acknowledgments for his notice of Pennsylvania, and his kind expressions as to our views, which he does us the honor to copy.

Most Worshipful JOHN HOLLIS BANKHEAD was re-elected Grand Master.

Right Worshipful DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

ARIZONA—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of the Third Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Arizona, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tucson, on the 11th of November, 1884.

Most Worshipful ALONZO BAILEY, Grand Master, presiding. His address contains the following, which we regard as worthy of insertion, as it relates to the interests of the Craft in their several sovereign jurisdictions :

“In the early part of my administration an alarm was sounded at the outer door ; upon ascertaining the cause I was informed that our jurisdiction had been invaded by ‘San Diego Lodge, No. 35,’ within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of California. After ascertaining the facts, I immediately entered into correspondence with the Most Worshipful Grand Master, JONATHAN DOAN HINES, who promptly investigated the matter, and it was adjusted in so short a period that my pleasant correspondence was ended too abruptly ; for I am free to confess I expected to elicit much information from his experience. ‘San Diego Lodge’ waived all claims and remitted the fees to ‘King Solomon Lodge.’ Too much praise cannot be awarded Most Worshipful Grand Master HINES for his kind acknowledgments, devoted attention, and prompt action manifested in the disposition of our complaint.”

The Grand Master laid the corner-stone of the new City Hall of the city of Prescott.

We rejoice to find that the Grand Master in his address has a very just appreciation of the duties of Lodge Committees to which applications for initiation are referred. He says,—

“One great fault with Masonic Lodges to-day is the lack of proper energy by Investigating Committees. Many enter our Masonic Lodges with no other feelings than to promote their own selfish interests. Such members are Masons in name only,

a reproach to our Order, and retard the objects for which Masonry is designed.

“I would recommend some action to be taken by this Grand Lodge which would require Investigating Committees to be more discreet and cautious.”

As in our remarks in the last report on the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Arizona, we expressed the hope this young Sister would be both wise and prudent in her action, we are the more gratified now to find that conservative and cautious spirit which has marked the administration of Grand Master BAILEY.

The recognition of the so-called Grand Lodge “Independent Symbolic Lodge of Mexico,” and another body calling itself “the Grand Lodge of the Federal District of Mexico,” is so extraordinary a departure from what is known to us as the rule in such cases, that we can but express our deep regret at this action of the Grand Lodge of Arizona.

PROCEEDINGS of Special Grand Communication, held in the hall of Aztlán Lodge, in the city of Prescott, on the 19th of July, 1884, to lay the corner-stone of the City Hall. Right Worshipful A. G. OLIVER *as* Grand Master; Right Worshipful MORRIS GOLDWATER, Grand Secretary. The proceedings were creditable to the Craft.

We salute our Brother GOLDWATER, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, with fraternal regard. We congratulate him that he did not recommend the recognition of the two so-called Grand Lodges to which we have already referred. That was the province of a Special Committee of the Grand Lodge, of which he was not even a member. It is not always prudent to intrust to a Special Committee especial cognizance of a subject which so appropriately belongs to the Standing Committee, whose experience and knowledge are supposed to be the guide of its action. Errors may thus be occasioned. In this case if error has been committed, it was the Grand Lodge by a Special Committee, and not the Committee on Correspondence,

that led to it. It is difficult to explain away the consequences of a precedent, if such a precedent embodies even unintentional mistake.

Our distinguished Brother's Annual Report does him infinite credit. It is a most excellent paper. It is conceived in a proper spirit and prepared with a judicious thoughtfulness.

Our decision as to the lawfulness of the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Arizona was based on facts obtained from reliable Masonic authority. We had not then received the papers from the Grand Lodge of Arizona.

If it will not be considered presumptuous, we take this opportunity to express to our Brother GOLDWATER thanks for his kind notice, which gratifies us.

Most Worshipful MERRILL PINGREE FREEMAN was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful GEORGE J. ROSKRUGE, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of an Emergent Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Arkansas was held in the Masonic Hall, city of Little Rock, September 7, 1884.

Most Worshipful JOHN I. SUMPTER, Grand Master, in the chair; Right Worshipful FAY HEMPSTEAD, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master stated the "object of the session was to attend the funeral of our beloved and lamented Brother, Past Grand Master ELBERT H. ENGLISH. The proceedings were solemn and impressive. Grand Master ENGLISH was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Arkansas, and his remains were "laid in state" in the Senate chamber at the State Capitol.

PROCEEDINGS of the Forty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, held in the Masonic Hall, city of Little Rock, November 25, 1884.

Most Worshipful JOHN I. SUMPTER, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master in his address presented sound, practical Masonic views on the relations of Masons to each other in the ties, and outside the claims, of the Craft. We most cordially agree with our distinguished Brother in the sentiments he expresses.

His notice of the death of Past Grand Master ENGLISH is an earnest and sincere Masonic tribute to one who, in public life and in the bonds and affection of Freemasonry, was respected and esteemed for his character and services.

We take occasion to remark on the ability and Masonic knowledge which mark the decisions of the Grand Master. Among those reported we beg to extract the following :

“After a candidate has been balloted for and declared rejected, that is a finality to the matter, and no inquiry can be tolerated as to whether an accident or mistake was made. An attempt to break this rule would tend to destroy the sanctity of the ballot-box and the value of a secret ballot.”

This is wise. If the rule is enforced Lodge members will more closely and carefully attend to their Lodge duties.

We observe under the title “Communication from the Masonic Bodies of Little Rock” a most extraordinary state of things that we cannot fail to notice.

It appears that the Grand Lodge appropriated \$250 to aid in fitting the new Masonic Hall, on the condition that the hall be annually used for “Grand Lodge purposes.”

Two Lodges, one Chapter, and a Commandery declined the donation, because it was in the nature of a consideration for the donation, whereas the “Masonic bodies” were willing without such consideration or condition to make the Grand Lodge their guests.

This is certainly very odd. We once thought, still think, that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge is the supreme sovereign Masonic authority in its jurisdiction, and it can use any hall or room dedicated to Masonic uses without either the consent or

agreement of its own subordinates. What a "Commandery" of Knights Templar has to do with it is still more odd. That association is not a Masonic body. These are our views on the subject, and as this incident concerns the Craft more or less, we take the liberty to notice it.

We regret that our Brother DODGE, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, gives us no general report. The special reference to the so-called Grand Lodge of Victoria and Australia, and the action of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas thereon, is, we think, premature.

Most Worshipful W. H. H. CLAYTON was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful FAY HEMPSTEAD, Grand Secretary.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Fourteenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of British Columbia was held in the Masonic Temple, in the city of Victoria, Province of British Columbia, Dominion of Canada, on the 20th of June, 1885.

Right Worshipful THOMAS TROUNCE, Deputy Grand Master, presiding.

The annual address of Grand Master EDGAR CROW BAKER was read by the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary. His reference to the origin of Masonry is too vague, and he treats it too superficially to be other than a pleasant paragraph in his excellent paper.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, Brothers THOS. TROUNCE and ELI HARRISON, presented a report so remarkable that we reprint it as a curiosity, as we think it to be, but we may be in error. However, it is in these words:

"REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

"In reference to the Grand Lodge of Peru, in the year 1825

there were eight Lodges and three Chapters Rose Croix under the Grand Orient of Columbia.

“A Supreme Council 33° A. A. S. R. was founded in Lima on the 2d November, 1830, and a Consistory of the 32d Degree was opened in the same year.

“Civil wars and religious intolerance have done much to retard progress. In 1883 there were twelve Lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Peru. Our Grand Lodge has been in communication with the Brethren of that jurisdiction since 1875.

“Extract from a very excellent article to the *Voice of Masonry*, by Venerable Grand Commander Brother Albert Pike, in connection with Masonic affairs in Peru and Mexico: ‘We have therefore in like cases heretofore advised Supreme Councils in alliance with us to frankly offer the option to all Symbolic Lodges of their obedience of continuing so or of withdrawing from that obedience and creating an independent Symbolic Grand Lodge for the State, Kingdom, Empire, or Republic between which and the Supreme Council relations of amity should exist.’

“We therefore recommend that this Grand Lodge recognize the Grand Lodge of Peru, and extend them a fraternal welcome by rendering them every courtesy and assistance in our power.

“Your Committee would suggest that the Grand Lodge Symbolica Independiente Mexicana, Vera Cruz, be not recognized by this Grand Lodge at the present session, as our Committee are not satisfied with the legality of their proceedings.

“THOS. TROUNCE,

“ELI HARRISON.”

The gist of the argument on which this so-called Grand Lodge of Peru is recognized is simply this: In 1825 there were eight Lodges and three Chapters Rose Croix under the Grand Orient of Columbia. A Supreme Council 33° Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite was founded in Lima, November 2, 1830, and a Consistory of the 32° was opened the same year. In 1833 there were twelve Lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Peru. The Grand Lodge of British Columbia has been in communication

with the Brethren of that jurisdiction since 1875. The *Voice of Masonry*, in an article by Brother A. PIKE, advised Supreme Councils to do something; therefore the amiable Brothers TROUNCE and HARRISON recommend British Columbia to recognize the Grand Lodge of Peru.

We doubt if ever before in the history of Masonry or Masonic Grand Lodges on this continent such a conclusion was ever reached by such magical, inconsequential, and, we venture to add, unmasonic, reasoning. We wonder, and keep further silence.

Most Worshipful THOMAS TROUNCE was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful EDWARD C. NEWFELDER was elected Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of the Thirty-fifth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of California, held in the Masonic Temple, city of San Francisco, on the 14th of October, 1884.

Most Worshipful JONATHAN DOAN HINES, presiding.

The Grand Master's address is a very interesting paper. It shows a very active administration of his office. His visits to the Lodges throughout his jurisdiction were frequent, and he faithfully performed the high duty of his exalted trust. We are gratified to read the following exposition of the condition of the Craft in California:

“From personal examination and observation, as well as from official and private reports, it is cheering to be able to chronicle the fact that, throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, Masonic teachings are better observed, charity is growing warmer, brotherly regard more fervent, and the Fraternity steadily advancing in Masonic knowledge and improving in social intercourse. Of course, individual instances are not wanting where this pleasant

view is not sustained, but, happily, such instances are not sufficiently numerous to affect the rule."

There are many of the decisions of the Grand Master in strict accord with those principles of Masonic jurisprudence which long experience has recognized.

On the 17th of November, 1884, the Grand Master laid the corner-stone of the new Town Hall at San Buenaventura.

On the 7th of May he laid the corner-stone of the new Court-House at Santa Rosa.

On the 9th of September he laid the corner-stone of the new edifice of the Society of California Pioneers at San Francisco.

We can truly say Most Worshipful Grand Master HINES is a hard-working Master Workman.

The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge give evidence that it was a deeply interesting meeting of the Craft. There were many important subjects considered in Reports from Special or Standing Committees. We should be glad to notice some of more than temporary importance, but it ever has been the guide of our action, in preparing the Report for our Grand Lodge, never to interfere with the domestic affairs of a Sister Grand Lodge, or express any opinion on its action on matters of interterritorial concernment. This we regard as the safe rule. It is none of our business. When, however, a Grand Lodge goes into the domain of Masonic jurisprudence which concerns the Craft in all jurisdictions, either by the establishment of a Masonic precedent, or in asserting a principle or the interpretation of a principle, then we feel it a duty to pass judgment on such action.

The Grand Lodge of California has a most marked Masonic influence on the Grand Lodges located on the western shores of the Pacific. It is of great importance, therefore, that her action should be calm, conservative, and deliberate. So long as the gavel of the Grand Lodge is in the hands of Brethren of such singular ability as the present Grand Master HINES and his distinguished predecessors, there is great satisfaction in believing the Landmarks, usages, and customs of the Craft are safely deposited.

For our distinguished colleague, Brother WILLIAM HENRY

HILL, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we entertain a feeling of regard, as though we were long personally, as fraternally, in association. He is so genial, so hard-working, so caustic, that it well repays to read him at length. He is admirably adapted to the important duty of the chairmanship of his Committee. His Report, now before us, read with great interest, is an elaborate paper. We think too much so; but, of course, it is none of our business, except that so few can follow in his path of travel over the reports of Grand Jurisdictions that he reviews.

We cannot agree with much that our distinguished Brother accepts as Masonic law in regard to the recognition of other so-called Grand Lodges. There is great peril in *taking for granted* what should be, is.

Very many of the errors that have affected the Craft—and, indeed, mankind—came from this “*taking for granted*.” Rather than investigate, consider, reflect, ascertain, it is such a short way to take for granted what is asserted to be. There is no principle better settled in the Grand Lodges of the States of the United States, or a large majority at least, than that a body claiming to be a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons must be recognized, respected, and obeyed by all the Lodges within the claimed jurisdiction. There can be no divided duty. All must obey and acknowledge the sovereignty of the body. Then it is a Grand Lodge of the Craft, and *not till then*.

Our distinguished Brother HILL does not yet agree as to the public acts of a Lodge. No, my dear Brother, a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons can do no Masonic, official, Lodge act outside of a tiled Lodge room.

We are not aware that the Lodge, or any Lodge, can have exclusive charge of the corpse of a deceased Brother. Why cannot three or more individual Brethren, or twenty, perform the sad rites of sepulchre? Why a Lodge as a Lodge? All those acts are the acts of individuals only. There is no exclusive charge of the body of the deceased by a Lodge. It may be that the deceased Brother belonged in his lifetime to other societies or associations, but at his funeral the Masons demand that they ex-

clusively shall perform these rites. If any other society asks the same opportunity it is granted by the Masons, but *before* the Masonic rites. That is to be the last, or exclusively the rite of his obsequies. The Lodge, as a Lodge, has no participation. The officers and members of the Lodge, as individual Brethren, throw into the open grave, each Brother, his symbol of the resurrection, and his token of each Brother's individual farewell.

But we must close this conversation with California, else our Brother HILL will allure us to a treatise which he will be the first to condemn, or regret for the tedium of a homily.

Most Worshipful JONATHAN DOAN HINES was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful Brother ALEXANDER G. ABELL was re-elected Grand Secretary.

COLORADO—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Twenty-fifth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado, held in the Masonic Hall, in the city of Denver, September 15, 1885.

Most Worshipful JAMES H. PEABODY, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful EDWARD C. PARMELEE, Grand Secretary.

Grand Master PEABODY made a most excellent and important address, in which he discusses some exceedingly important questions of interest to the Craft. He gives a report of his official action, showing industry and a large draft on his time.

We quote the following :

"I believe that one of the most commendable features of Freemasonry is its absence of ostentation. I fear that the object of these public ceremonies is for mere show and display, to attract the attention of the profane, and should be classed as innovations. A Masonic Lodge cannot be regularly convened as a Lodge where the world at large are invited to seats, and is in direct and positive antagonism of sound conservative teach-

ings, and opens the door to other dangerous novelties. In departing in this particular from the custom of my predecessors, I have done so with an earnest desire and sole purpose to protect our Fraternity from any influence which might impair its true character, or weaken its hold on the commendation of the wise, the sensible, and the good among the Fraternity, and retain the admiration of all thoughtful men."

It is encouraging to observe such sound teaching in Colorado, and we thank Grand Master PEABODY for his annunciation of these views.

One of the requests made of the Grand Master was to grant a dispensation "to convene a Master Mason's Lodge in the open air for the purpose of conferring the third degree."

Our esteemed Brethren of various jurisdictions who believe in "public installations of Lodge officers" have impressed some in Colorado, for the above request shows that those who made it are going to the logical conclusions of performing Lodge work, not only in public, but in the "open air."

The Grand Master decided that the Past Master's degree need not be conferred upon the Worshipful Master elect at the time of his installation before he could enter on the duties of his office, but afterwards at the first available opportunity. Well! this is, indeed, a most novel view of this wonderful degree.

He also decided as follows. We prefer to give it in the words of the Grand Master:

"That an applicant with one leg five inches shorter than the other was ineligible for initiation under the provisions of Section 35 of our By-Laws, and replied that I construed the law to mean that the loss or deformity of any of those members of the body which do not minister to its action would not disqualify, but that the loss or deformity of those which *do* minister to its action, 'or those upon which the mind depends for its ideas of external objects,' certainly would; and that we should not determine the degree of disability,—whether a man's leg was five inches or twenty inches shorter than its mate,—holding that no compromise should be made between the stern dictates of the law and a loose interpretation, simply on the grounds of expedi-

ency. For I fail to conceive how a person thus deformed could efficiently discharge the duties which would be required of him as a Mason."

And also, "That a person who had lost the use of his right arm was ineligible for initiation."

When crutches and wooden members of the bodies of applicants for initiation are to come into a Lodge, where are the wooden heads to appear?

It appears by the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence as we read it, that any Lodge can construe a Landmark of Freemasonry as it sees fit.

A more dangerous doctrine never was enunciated in Masonry. It is senseless, without any basis either in the law or the history of the Fraternity. If it is ever followed, then Landmarks will cease to exist, and every whim or caprice of a mere majority of votes in any Lodge, large or small in numbers, will have a thing, deformed and diseased *per se*, called a Landmark. No, never can such a teaching be accepted.

Right Worshipful LAWRENCE N. GREENLEAF, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the Annual Report. It is all that is desirable in such a report, and is so highly creditable as a just review of the several Grand Lodge proceedings, that we congratulate our Brother on his labor.

Most Worshipful GEORGE WYMAN was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful EDWARD C. PARMELEE re-elected Grand Secretary.

CANADA—1884-85.

PROCEEDINGS of an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada, held at North Augusta, August 13, 1884, Most Worshipful JAS. A. HENDERSON, Q.C., as Grand Master, to lay the corner-stone of St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

PROCEEDINGS of an Especial Communication held at the town of Ridgetown, October 29, 1884, Right Worshipful WIL-

LIAM F. MILLER *as* Grand Master, to lay the corner-stone of St. George's Episcopal Church.

PROCEEDINGS of an Especial Communication held at the city of Toronto, June 30, 1885, Most Worshipful HUGH MURRAY, Grand Master, presiding, to lay the corner-stone of a new hall for Orient Lodge.

PROCEEDINGS of an Especial Communication held in the town of Lindsay, July 1, 1885, Most Worshipful HUGH MURRAY, Grand Master, to lay the corner-stone of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

We are pleased to see by these proceedings that the operative Masons of the Grand Lodge of Canada and the speculative Brethren of that Grand Lodge are actively engaged in *the work*. It is apparent that on all these occasions what was done was well done, and we hope the edifices to be erected on these corner-stones may be for the glory of God, the good of the people, and the honor of the Craftsmen.

PROCEEDINGS of the Thirtieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the Court-House, in the city of Hamilton, the 8th of July, 1885, Most Worshipful HUGH MURRAY, Grand Master, presiding.

His address is a very interesting paper, full of important matters, which he treats with ability and prudence. We would be glad to reprint several extracts from it, but we are not able to gratify this strong desire. It is only left to us concisely to refer to some of them.

The Grand Master issued commissions to try three Worshipful Masters, and they were rightly dealt with.

The decisions of the Grand Master are sound, as reported.

His notice of the question, if an atheist, or an agnostic, or a modern evolutionist, or an *isimite* can be received into the Craft, is true doctrine. We fully endorse the position he takes on this subject. There can be no true ancient Freemasonry if God is

not the corner-stone of the Masonic faith. Any and every attempt by science, or philosophy, or logic, or cunning, and man's device to ignore the Great Architect of the universe, the only true God, in our faith, ritual, and ceremonial, is as impotent as the denial of the eternal laws by which the world is governed.

Masonry without God is to be likened only to the sun without its light, the moon without its glory, and the stars without their beauty.

We deeply regret that Grand Master MURRAY, in his notice of the action of the Grand Lodge of Quebec on the question of its sovereignty over all Lodges in its jurisdiction, was not more positive and emphatic. Whatever may have been the state of things when the Grand Lodge of Canada was established, the principle of Grand Lodge sovereignty cannot be ignored. It is a principle that reaches down to the existence of Grand Lodges and out to their supreme authority. It will not be possible to avoid the logical conclusions from this premise. A Grand Lodge is supreme and sovereign, or it is only an association of Masons, subject to neither government nor control. Such may be a revolutionary body in the exercise of functions involving discord, disruption, and anarchy. This cannot be. On this subject there is no room now for argument. The Grand Lodges of the States of the United States have decided this question. We regret Grand Master MURRAY did not come up to the doctrine of American Freemasonry.

In issues involving the integrity of a principle there is but one line of action, face the question and act with the courage of the convictions of right. No report from the Committee on Correspondence.

Most Worshipful HUGH MURRAY was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful J. J. MASON was re-elected Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT—1885.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS of the Ninety-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, held in the Masonic Temple, city of New Haven, January 21, 1885.

Most Worshipful DWIGHT WAUGH, Grand Master.

The only matter treated in the Grand Master's address of general Masonic interest is his action on the complaint of the Grand Lodge of Canada that a Lodge in Connecticut has conferred the Most Worshipful degree on a person who had received the E. A. and F. C. in a Lodge "chartered by the spurious so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario." We fully agree with Grand Master WAUGH's action in this matter.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That no communication whatever from Lodges in this State to Grand Lodges or Grand Masters of other Grand Jurisdictions shall be made except through and with the approval of the Grand Master of this State."

This has been the rule in the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, and the very best results have been secured by it.

The Grand Lodge recognized the Grand Lodge of Arizona.

The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut are of moment to the members of the Craft in that jurisdiction. We see this, and therefore, after noting this fact, congratulate the Grand Lodge on its prosperity and the conservatism of the administration of its able Grand Master.

Our dear Brother WHEELER is not elaborate in his Report on Foreign Correspondence, but its concise and clear summary of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges he reviews is admirable. So long a service as Right Worshipful Brother WHEELER has rendered to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut and to the Craft elsewhere has gained for him the love, confidence, and fraternal regard of all who have read his instructive and excellent reports.

Yes, dear Brother, as we are assimilating in spirit, I hope to associate in the flesh, soon, very soon. How? When? Where?

Most Worshipful DWIGHT WAUGH was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOSEPH K. WHEELER, Grand Secretary.

DAKOTA—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of Eleventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, held in the hall of Shiloh Lodge, in the city of Fargo, on the 9th of June, 1885.

Right Worshipful WILLIAM BLATT, Deputy Grand Master, in the chair.

At the morning session of June 10, Most Worshipful Grand Master JOHN F. SCHRADER delivered his annual address. During the year eleven Lodges were duly constituted, and dispensations for eighteen new Lodges were granted.

We cannot agree with some of the decisions of Most Worshipful Grand Master SCHRADER, especially as to some points on the "objection" to candidates favorably reported upon. An objection *before O.* is fatal. A *member* hearing on good Masonic authority from any Master Mason that a candidate is not worthy, leaves that candidate, in the mind of the member, without *good Masonic report*, which is also fatal if the member states it as a *member of the Lodge*. Can it be that a candidate known to be unworthy by members of other Lodges than that to which application is made is to be accepted because no member of the Lodge applied to knows of his own knowledge of existing facts? What is *good Masonic report*?

The corner-stone of the Northern Hospital for the Insane at Jamestown was laid on June 23, 1884.

The corner-stone of the Episcopal College at Sioux Falls, at the request of the Right Rev. Bishop Hare, was laid by the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master BLATT on the 22d of August, 1884. Both ceremonies were admirably conducted.

On September 11, 1884, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master BLATT dedicated the Temple of Minnehaha Lodge, No. 5.

On the 19th of November, 1884, the hall of Kampeska Lodge at Watertown.

On January 23, 1885, the hall of Shiloh Lodge, No. 8, city of Fargo, was dedicated by the Grand Lodge, Right Worshipful SYLVESTER I. HILL acting as Grand Master.

The following extract exhibits so marked an evidence of gratitude that we desire to record it. Well does our esteemed and distinguished Brother, the Ajax of Iowa Masonry, merit this tribute, and it does honor to the Craft in Dakota :

“The Special Committee to whom was referred the communication from Most Worshipful Brother BROWN, submitted the following report, which was received and the recommendation of the Committee adopted :

“TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF DAKOTA :

“The Special Committee to whom was referred the communication from Most Worshipful Brother THOMAS H. BROWN, suggesting that this Grand Lodge, in token of its high regard for Most Worshipful Brother THEODORE S. PARVIN, present to him a piece of furniture suitable for his private office in the Masonic library building of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

“*Resolved*, That in view of the valuable services rendered to the Masonic Brotherhood, and especially to this Grand Lodge, by Most Worshipful Brother THEODORE S. PARVIN, of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due and are hereby tendered to him for the fraternal interest he has ever manifested in the welfare of the Masonic fraternity of Dakota. That a committee, consisting of Most Worshipful Brothers HAND, BLATT, GIFFORD, BROWN, and Right Worshipful Brother DEWITT, are hereby appointed to procure and present to Most Worshipful Brother THEODORE S. PARVIN, as a testimonial of fraternal regard, a piece of furniture suitable

for his private office in the Masonic library building of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, or such other testimonial as the committee may agree upon. That the sum of one hundred dollars be and is hereby appropriated from the funds of this Grand Lodge to be used by the committee in procuring said testimonial.'

"Fraternally submitted,

"S. G. UPDYKE,

"J. T. WOOLEY,

"JOHN DAVIDSON,

"Committee."

This certainly is a novelty in Masonry, and indeed among mankind any exhibition of gratitude, but it may, if so regarded, be condoned for the spirit it manifests.

Our Right Worshipful Brother WILLIAM BLATT, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, presents a short report. It is none the less well done. Our distinguished Brother treats the proceedings of Grand Lodges he reviews most aptly, concisely, and intelligently. What more is needed? He who can do this merits high praise.

We invoke our Brother calmly and dispassionately to consider those questions to which he refers under the caption of Pennsylvania. He will yet learn, we trust, that the safest course for Freemasonry is to "walk by the same rule and mind the same thing" which made our Craft united, enduring, a light that shines in darkness, a perpetual inheritance, and a bulwark against error, disorganization, and decay.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM BLATT was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful CHARLES T. MCCOY, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE—1884-85.

THE Seventy-eighth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Delaware assembled in the Masonic Hall, at the city of Wilmington, October 1884.

Most Worshipful JOHN F. SAULSBURY, Grand Master ; Right Worshipful WILLIAM S. HAYES, Grand Secretary.

We have read the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Delaware without noting any special matter for review.

The Grand Master remarks that the regulation requiring Worshipful Masters of Lodges to prove their ability to do the work, "has had a wholesome and beneficial effect upon the Craft throughout the jurisdiction."

It is hardly to be expected that the Lodges in any Masonic jurisdiction can prosper if the Worshipful Masters are incompetent to discharge their important trusts. *The* Master ought to be a master-workman ; how else can he know if the work is plumb, level, and square ? The trouble in many Lodges often arises from the ignorance and incapacity of the Master.

It appears from Grand Master SAULSBURY's remarks that his jurisdiction needs earnest, active, intelligent supervision. The Grand Lodge has suffered from the inability of some of its members to give time and attention to duties imposed on them. The Committee on Correspondence has no report. Its Chairman is too busy to give the time from his own affairs to prepare the annual review of the proceedings of Sister Grand Lodges. Right Worshipful Brother T. M. WILLIAMS, Chairman of the Committee, makes a plaintive but plain excuse. He, however, found leisure to recommend the recognition of the so-called Grand Lodges of New South Wales and South Australia. Surely our esteemed Brother was severely pressed by profane engagements.

Most Worshipful THOMAS DAVIDSON was elected Grand Master ; Right Worshipful WILLIAM S. HAYES was re-elected Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Delaware, held in the room of Union Lodge, No. 7, at Dover, June 24, 1885.

Most Worshipful THOMAS DAVIDSON, Grand Master ; Right Worshipful WILLIAM S. HAYES, Grand Secretary.

This Communication was held to dedicate the new Lodge

room for Union Lodge, No. 7. The proceedings were elaborate.

PROCEEDINGS of the Seventy-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, held in the Masonic Hall, city of Wilmington, October 7, 8, 9, 1885.

Most Worshipful THOMAS DAVIDSON, Grand Master; Right Worshipful WILLIAM S. HAYES, Grand Secretary.

The address of Grand Master DAVIDSON notices the decease of members, and other prominent Masons; and the death of Right Worshipful Brother AURELIO ALMEIDA, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Cuba. He reports having appointed ten representatives of the Grand Lodge of Delaware near Sister Grand Lodges, and strange as it is, he includes "South Australia" in the list.

The Grand Master reports his attendance at the dedication of the Washington Monument at Washington City.

Grand Master DAVIDSON thus writes:

"Complaints have been received that candidates rejected in this jurisdiction have applied for and received the degrees in other jurisdictions. During the year an applicant, who was thrice rejected in Lafayette Lodge, removed to another State, and in less than three months was initiated. The matter being brought to the attention of the Master of the Lodge, he at once refused to allow said applicant to receive further light.

"In another case an applicant who was rejected by St. John's Lodge removed to same jurisdiction, and in less than a year claims to have received the degrees. The latter case being so recently reported to me I have not had time to inquire into the facts, but the matter is under investigation.

"I issued a circular to all Grand Lodges warning them against the party first mentioned, as he threatened that he would be made a Mason if he had to remove to another jurisdiction."

We congratulate the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Dela-

ware on the vitality that was present at its last Annual Communication. It is most encouraging.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Right Worshipful Brother JAMES S. DOBB, Chairman. It is a most excellent report. Our Brother has not had all the experience which years of service afford, yet he has most admirably performed his task.

It is very pleasant to read Right Worshipful Brother DOBB's review, and we offer him our earnest and sincere salutations. We hope he will continue as Chairman of his Committee.

Most Worshipful THOMAS DAVIDSON was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful WILLIAM S. HAYES was re-elected Grand Secretary.

ENGLAND—1884-85.

AT a Quarterly Communication held on September 3, 1884, Right Worshipful Gen. JOHN STUDHOLME BROWNRIGG, C.B., Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, *as* Grand Master, presiding; Vice Worshipful Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary. Notice of the death of Brother JOHN HAVERS occupied much of the time of this Communication.

The Board of General Purposes decided that a less interval by one day than the four weeks between degrees was bad. The time for the regular stated meeting was on a holiday; the Lodge was called the day before; the degree was given. This was error, so the Board decided, and that the Brother must be re-obligated before a certificate could be issued.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION held on December 3, 1884. The Right Honorable the EARL OF CARNARVON, Most Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, in the Chair; Right Worshipful Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary.

The proceedings of this Communication are of deep interest

to the Grand Lodges of the United States. So important do we regard them in their relations to Grand Lodges in lands under the dominion of the British Government, and hence by that claim under the dominion of the Grand Lodge of England, that we take much space to present to the Craft in Pennsylvania the following correspondence, which appears in full in the proceedings of the September Communication of the Grand Lodge of England :

“ The Grand Secretary then read the following letters :

“ ‘ THE GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC, A.F. AND A.M.,

“ ‘ GRAND MASTER’S OFFICE,

“ ‘ STANSTEAD, QUEBEC, 3d October, 1884.

“ ‘ To His Royal Highness ALBERT EDWARD, Prince of Wales, etc., etc., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

“ ‘ *Most Worshipful Brother and Illustrious Sir*,—With assurance of loyalty, and under the instructions conveyed to me by the Grand Lodge of Quebec as its chief Executive Officer, I desire to call the official attention of your Royal Highness to the position of Craft Masonry in this province as affected by the continuance therein of Lodges acknowledging the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, and repudiating the authority of the Grand Lodge of Quebec as the Sovereign Masonic Power within the territory.

“ ‘ This Grand Lodge was duly constituted in accordance with the rules prevalent on this continent as to territorial jurisdiction, has been in existence for nearly fifteen years, and has been fraternally recognized by the Sister Grand Lodges of the western world, and generally elsewhere, as the Grand Body exercising supreme power in Craft Masonry in the province.

“ ‘ That principle has been generally accepted as fundamental, and has become the rule and guide in matters relating thereto ; it was through the acceptance and adoption of that principle that this Grand Lodge was formed ; so large a body of Masons

have recognized it that its infraction would cause great disturbance in the Masonic world, and in the interests of peace, harmony, and brotherly love such a calamity ought, if possible, to be avoided.

“‘At the time this Grand Lodge was organized there existed in this province three Lodges, to wit, St. Paul, No. 374; St. George, No. 440; and St. Lawrence, No. 640, under the jurisdiction of your Grand Lodge, and which have continued without changing their allegiance.

“‘For many years after the formation of this Grand Lodge the difficulties and labor attending the same, and the proper shaping of the work so as to procure efficiency, largely occupied its attention.

“‘Yet at all times and all occasions has this Grand Lodge in the most positive manner declared its belief in and adherence to that doctrine, and that it would at the proper time assert its exclusive territorial rights.

“‘In the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, the time has now arrived for a settlement of the question; such settlement, it is within my instructions and powers to say, can only rest with any degree of satisfaction upon the withdrawal of the exercise of authority by your Grand Lodge over the said Lodges now acknowledging its allegiance, and the unconditional admission of the supremacy of this Grand Lodge over all Master Masons and all Craft Lodges in the territory of the Province of Quebec. Such settlement is in the interest of the Craft here and elsewhere throughout the Masonic world.

“‘Events which have transpired within the past few years have made it quite evident that, apart from the territorial principle, peace and harmony cannot prevail among Masons in this province until it is fully established that there is but one class of Masons here, and but one supreme authority. To assert a healing influence therein, if for no other consideration, it is manifestly certain that one or other of the Grand Bodies should withdraw. Discord has been fermented among Masons, and scandal has been brought upon the Fraternity thereby. Two Masonic bodies bidding for support and struggling for suprem-

acy within this jurisdiction is not a pleasant subject for contemplation. The difficulty has unfortunately gained general notoriety, and is likely to bring disrepute upon the Craft.

“ ‘There is a feeling of uneasiness among Masons, and many causes, more or less grave, render it important that in the province there should not be two classes of Masons, or “Quebec Masons” and “English Masons,” but only one Grand Body and a united Order.

“ ‘I need not refer in detail to these causes, as I am sure that they have not altogether escaped your Royal Highness’s notice.

“ ‘The bitterness of one class of our population towards Masons makes it all the more important that there should be no division in our ranks, and the feeling which prevails that our English Brethren rely to some extent upon that adverse sentiment naturally arouses the indignation of the Quebec Brethren.

“ ‘I cannot believe that your Grand Lodge desires to build upon discord and strife in this province, or desires to have the idea prevail that Colonial Masons have no rights which English Masons will admit; that whilst Colonial Masons are tolerated they have no prerogative save such as English Masons permit them to possess.

“ ‘Apart from Masonic considerations, the belief that the sentiment of English Masons towards their Colonial Brethren is of that character would be fraught with danger, as tending to loosen attachments binding the mother-country and the colonies together.

“ ‘In the present situation probably nine-tenths of the Freemasons in this province acknowledge allegiance to this Grand Lodge. It has a distinct organization fraternally recognized by the sister Grand Bodies; it has in its favor the principle of territorial jurisdiction; it is in a position to efficiently perform Masonic work.

“ ‘There is nothing which your Grand Lodge can do for its adherents here that this Grand Lodge cannot perform; these are important reasons why the withdrawal should be on your part, aside from the consideration before mentioned.

“ ‘Believing, as I do, that the interests of the Craft require

the discontinuance by you of your authority over Master Masons and Craft Lodges in this province, as a final adjustment of the unpleasant difficulties created by its continuance here, I am compelled respectfully to convey to your Royal Highness, the M. W. Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England A.F. and A.M., the request of the Grand Lodge of the Province of Quebec A.F. and A.M., that such withdrawal should take place on or before the first day of January next, failing which no other course will be open to me but to declare, according to Masonic methods, a severance of intercourse between this Grand Lodge, its constituent Lodges, and all Brethren in obedience thereto, and the above-mentioned Lodges, to wit, St. Paul, No. 374; St. George, No. 440; and St. Lawrence, No. 640, and each and all the members thereof.

“ ‘ I have the honor to be, loyally and fraternally, yours obedient,

“ ‘ E. R. JOHNSON, G.M., Quebec.

(Attest)

“ ‘ JOHN H. ISAACSON, Grand Sec.

“ ‘ G.L. of Q.A.F. and A.M.

“ ‘ FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, 27th November, 1884.

“ ‘ To Most Worshipful Brother E. R. JOHNSON, Grand Master Grand Lodge of Quebec.

“ ‘ *Most Worshipful Sir and Brother,*—I am commanded by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of United Grand Lodge of England to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to him, of the 3d October last, on the subject of the three English Lodges in Montreal, viz., St. Paul, No. 374; St. George, No. 440; and St. Lawrence, No. 640, still remaining under this Grand Lodge, in which you urge, on similar grounds to those put forward by your predecessors in the years 1877 and 1880 and 1881, the supercession of these Lodges, and intimate that, in the opinion of your Grand Lodge, the time has now arrived for a settlement of the question, explaining that such settlement, to be satisfactory, involves the unconditional admission of the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of Quebec over all Lodges and Masons in that province. You therefore convey to our Grand Master the re-

quest of your Grand Lodge that a withdrawal of the authority of the Grand Lodge of England from over these three Lodges should take place on or before the 1st January, 1885, failing which you will declare a severance of intercourse between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and its members and the three Lodges in question and their members.

“ ‘The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England does not desire unnecessarily to repeat what has been already communicated in the letters which have been addressed by my predecessor and myself, in obedience to his commands, to the late Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec; but his Royal Highness must point out that when the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed in the year 1857, and assumed jurisdiction over the territory of Montreal, the three lodges in question were already in existence and working,—the St. Paul since 1824; the St. George since 1836; and the St. Lawrence since 1854; and these three Lodges have declined to join the movement which resulted in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, or to sever their allegiance from the Grand Lodge of England. When the former body sought recognition from this Grand Lodge, it succeeded to and adopted the expressed condition that the existing status of these three Lodges should be maintained,—this point was stipulated for by the Grand Lodge of England, and was distinctly agreed to by the Grand Lodge of Canada.

“ ‘Matters remained on this footing until the year 1869, when the Quebec Masons separated from the Grand Lodge of Canada, and formed themselves into the Grand Lodge of Quebec and declared their independence, which was ultimately acknowledged by the Grand Lodge of Canada; but on the newly-established Grand Lodge of Quebec applying for recognition they were reminded of the terms previously entered into by our Grand Lodge with that of Canada, relative to the three Lodges in question, and were informed that such recognition could only be accorded them on similar terms. To these conditions the Grand Lodge of Quebec declined to assent, and the matter has since remained *in statu quo*, although various letters have passed on the subject between the two Grand Masters. It has been

repeatedly explained that the Grand Lodge of England would offer no obstacle to these Lodges entering into allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Quebec; but that is a matter entirely for these Lodges to determine. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England has always declined to use coercive measures to bring about this result, holding that the Lodges are entitled to act independently without pressure. The request now made involves the principle that because a Grand Lodge is founded in a territory, Lodges therein already lawfully existing become unlawful if they do not join in adhering to the newly-formed body.

“‘To this doctrine the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England cannot subscribe. A Grand Lodge by its mere creation cannot invalidate actual Lodges already legally existing in the territory over which it assumes jurisdiction.

“‘The creation of the new body does not annul the prior right; indeed, the request to withdraw the warrants implies that under them the continuance of these Lodges is justified.

“‘The Grand Lodge of England has consistently adhered to the position thus stated. At the formation of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, a Lodge under the Grand Lodge of England continued its allegiance, and is still working at Halifax in harmony with the local Grand Lodge.

“‘The reference in your letter to two Masonic bodies bidding for support and struggling for supremacy does not appear to apply in any way to the present position.

“‘His Royal Highness is naturally anxious that peace and harmony should prevail among all Masons, but he does not see that he would be justified in forcing upon these three Lodges, against their expressed desire, their extinction. Whilst, therefore, much regretting his inability to comply with the wish of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, he cannot undertake to ask the Grand Lodge of England to reverse its former decision upon the grounds and for the reasons advanced.—I have the honor to be, etc.,

(Signed) “‘SHADWELL H. CLERKE, G.S.’

“THE EARL OF CARNARVON, Pro Grand Master:—Brethren, the correspondence which you have just heard read will be printed in due form, and it will therefore become accessible to every member of this Grand Lodge, and I hope and believe that the independent opinion of each member of this Grand Lodge will ratify the conclusions to which his Royal Highness our Most Worshipful Grand Master has been advised to arrive in that letter. It is difficult in such a correspondence as this when read out for the first time to be perfectly intelligible in all its details to every member in a large chamber like this, and therefore perhaps I should do that which is acceptable to you if in two or three sentences I just point out to you what the question is which is now an issue. In the year 1857, after a long contention, which some members of this Grand Lodge may perhaps remember, Grand Lodge of Canada was established, and was recognized by the Grand Lodge of England; recognized cheerfully, fully, frankly, and without any reserve; and, as far as I know, since then there has been no hitch or difficulty in the relations between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Canada. But at the time of the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada there were still some few Lodges remaining in Canada which, for various reasons, preferred to continue to work under the Grand Lodge of England, and it was made part of the formal agreement of that day, cheerfully subscribed to by all parties, that those Lodges that elected to retain their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England should be allowed to do so without any let or hindrance. In the year 1869, more than twelve years afterwards, the Grand Lodge of Quebec came into existence as an offshoot of the Grand Lodge of Canada. That is a matter with which we had no concern in this country. It was an arrangement effected, I believe, in all harmony and good will on the spot, and doubtless for very sufficient reasons. But it so happened that in that body of Quebec there were three of these English Lodges, who had bargained at the time of recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada to retain their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England. The executive of that time, in accordance with its duty, stipulated for those three Lodges

the same amount of liberty which had been secured to them at the time the Grand Lodge of Canada was created. The Grand Lodge of Quebec, I am sorry to say, for reasons which I cannot myself appreciate, declined to recognize the freedom of those three Lodges to retain their allegiance, and thus it has so happened that in consequence of our being unable, on the one hand, to obtain from the Grand Lodge of Quebec an undertaking that they would respect the liberty of these three Lodges, and on the other hand, because the Grand Lodge of Quebec declined to enter into any covenant for them, there has not been that full and formal recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec which we were in this country perfectly willing to give, and which has been only hindered, as I have said, by that particular state of circumstances. Well, now there arrives this letter from the Grand Master of Quebec which you have just heard read. On the tone of that letter I do not desire to remark, except to say that it is somewhat broad, curt, and peremptory, and I think is altogether inconsistent with that Masonic unity which it should be the study and object of every body of Freemasons in every part of the world to cultivate. But still all that may be a subject of warmth and misunderstanding, and I do not desire for a moment to dwell upon it. But the point in question is this, that we are informed in that letter that unless we for our part repudiate the allegiance of these three English Lodges in the Province of Quebec, the Grand Lodge of Quebec will place both those Lodges and ourselves under whatever stress they may, in order to drive them into allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and failing that, they threaten to declare a severance of their connection with us. Now, it is not my object to-night to argue this question; it is merely my duty to make the Brethren in Grand Lodge fully aware of the bare facts of the case, and I have stated the case without any coloring or any complexion given to it. I will only say in conclusion that which substantially has been said in the letter of our Grand Master, that we have and can have no selfish or jealous wishes or desires in this matter. Our one object is to promote the welfare of our Brethren in every part of Canada and all over the world; but we

undoubtedly do contend that the doctrine which is laid down by the Grand Lodge of Quebec would be a very abnormal, and a very dangerous, and a very unjust one, that when Lodges enjoy a legal existence in any particular territory it should be lawful for some new body to constitute and connect themselves, and to swamp and declare invalid those Lodges which preceded them, and which had that legal existence. No doctrine, it seems to me, could be more unjust and unfair than that, and it appears to me to be our bounden duty, so long as those Lodges of their own free will cling to the Grand Lodge of England, to see that they shall not, so far as we can help it, by any word or act of ours be driven or compelled into an allegiance which they repudiate and object to, when we have in years previously specially covenanted for their freedom and stipulated for it; and further, I should be disposed to say that when the Grand Lodge of Quebec came into existence as an offshoot of the Grand Lodge of Canada, it inherited the liabilities, and it accepted, and it was honorably bound to accept, the obligations of its predecessor. Brethren, this has been the principle upon which this Grand Lodge has acted hitherto; it is the principle upon which it has acted in other similar questions which from time to time arise; and, however painful it may be to us to see Masonic concord in any way disturbed,—disturbed, I trust, for a very short time, and in a very small degree,—still, I think it is incumbent upon us to maintain the good faith which we have pledged, and to insist, so far as we can insist, upon those stipulations for the independence and the freedom of allegiance enjoyed by these three English Lodges being still enjoyed, no matter what Masonic authority comes into existence now or hereafter in the province of Québec.”

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, held March 4, 1885.

Right Worshipful WILLIAM WITHER BRAMSTONE BEACH, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire and Isle of Wight, *as* Grand Master; Very Worshipful Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary. His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES was re-elected Grand Master.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, held at the Freemasons' Hall, London, on the 29th of April, 1885.

The Right Honorable the EARL OF LATHOM, Deputy Grand Master, *as* Grand Master; Very Worshipful Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary.

After ordinary business, the Grand Lodge partook of the annual grand festival.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of England was held in Freemasons' Hall, London, June, 1885.

The Right Honorable the EARL OF LIMERICK, Provincial Grand Master for Bristol, *as* Grand Master, presiding; Very Worshipful Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary.

It is known that our custom has been not to quote from the proceedings of Sister Grand Lodges unless the matter quoted is of such general interest and importance as to justify the reproduction on our pages of the words used. It is better authority than a *résumé*, for inadvertence might express a different or less clear version of the subject.

We, therefore, here insert from the proceedings of this Quarterly Communication what we regard as of deep moment to the members of our own Grand Lodge, but to those of other jurisdictions.

On the subject of the recognition of so-called Grand Lodges there yet remain some doubts as to the course to be pursued. We have ever maintained that caution and delay should mark Grand Lodge action on all such requests. When we consider the political relations between England and her colonial possessions, it is not difficult to comprehend how significantly those relations impress themselves on the Masonic relations between the Grand Lodge of England and the Craft in those colonies which hold Lodges under the charters of, and by allegiance to, the Grand Lodge of England.

When, therefore, in those geographical districts the Craft also hold Lodges under charters from the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the condition of Masonic

relations is complicated. If Brethren undertake to form Grand Lodges in these geographical districts, or colonies, of course difficulties are created.

To present this subject for calm consideration, we, therefore, make the following quotations. They express opinions, views, and policy not to be overlooked or disregarded.

Grand Lodges of the States of the United States should, at least, intelligently understand what effect their recognition of such colonial Grand Lodges, will produce.

“ V. W. Brother FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., Grand Registrar :—Most Worshipful Grand Master, the first matter before Grand Lodge this evening is the consideration of an application from a body styling itself ‘The Grand Lodge of South Australia,’ stating that all the Lodges and almost all the Masons in that Colony had united in forming an independent Grand Lodge, and praying that it may therefore be recognized as such by the Grand Lodge of England. In explanation of this request, I must state that in the important Colony of South Australia, before the formation of the body now applying for recognition, there existed twenty Lodges of Masons under the Grand Lodge of England. There were also several other Lodges under the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland; and those Lodges, or rather the Brethren composing those Lodges, have, by a movement which they have made, I think I may say virtually unanimously, joined and agreed in constituting, as far as they were able to do so, a body formed within the limits of the Colony, which they have styled ‘The Grand Lodge of South Australia.’ In so doing the Brethren who compose the Lodges that hold under our jurisdiction have acted in a manner which showed that they thoroughly appreciated the position of this Grand Lodge, for the body which makes this application to us for recognition expressed its willingness to recognize and preserve the rights of any Lodge or Brother who might still desire to maintain and hold allegiance to this Grand Lodge, and in other respects, so far as I am able to form an opinion from the papers which have been transmitted to the Grand Secretary, the pro-

ceedings which have ended in the constitution of the new body have been dictated by a thoroughly fraternal spirit. Of the twenty Lodges which I have mentioned as holding under the Grand Lodge of England, the great majority of the Brethren composing nineteen of them had at the time of the application consented to, and concurred in, the establishment of the Grand Lodge of South Australia, and since then the Brethren composing the twentieth Lodge have also intimated their adherence thereto. Now I think I cannot do better, under these circumstances, than quote what was said by my predecessor in office, Brother McINTYRE, in Grand Lodge, on the 5th March, 1884, when considering a somewhat similar application from Victoria. He said, ‘If the time should come when the Lodges of a District, and the Masons of a District, as a body, should consider that they should form a Supreme Grand Lodge of their own, and it should be clear to the United Grand Lodge of England that the Lodges and the Masons unanimously desire it, we should be inclined to give them the recognition which they desire.’ Now, when an unanimous wish has been thus expressed and a Body so formed, although, as far as we are concerned, it is, to the moment of our recognition, technically an irregular Body, I think we are not indisposed, as a Grand Lodge, to meet their wishes, though we may view with a sense of regret the severance of the tie. I may further mention, as an incident of the movement to which I have referred, that while thus severing their connection with the Grand Lodge of England, for the purpose of founding a new jurisdiction in their own Colony, the Brethren of the various English Lodges in South Australia have not been unmindful of the past nor are they inclined to disregard it; for one of the matters to which they have asked the Most Worshipful Grand Master to accede is that, should this recognition be accorded, which I trust Grand Lodge will do, and which I shall presently have the pleasure to move, they may be allowed to retain, as a cherished memento of their connection with the Grand Lodge of England, the Warrants originally granted to them by this Grand Lodge. Under those circumstances, Most Worshipful Grand Master, bearing in mind also that the Grand

Secretary has been in correspondence with the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland on the subject, and has ascertained from them that they are also prepared to recognize the Grand Lodge of South Australia as a Sovereign Body, I have great pleasure in moving

“That this Grand Lodge recognizes and acknowledges the Grand Lodge of South Australia.’

“Brother the Rev. Canon GEORGE RAYMOND PORTAL, Grand Chaplain:—Most Worshipful Grand Master, I have great pleasure in seconding the proposition which has been so ably put by the Grand Registrar. I think it does these Lodges and Brethren great credit that they wish to retain their Warrants as historical records; and it is also much to their credit that they have stated their willingness to acknowledge the indefeasible rights of those Lodges and Brethren who retain their allegiance to this Grand Lodge. That, no doubt, is a point on which the Grand Registrar would have been very firm if there had been necessity for it. Under the circumstances, no doubt, we shall be doing a very graceful and fraternal act in acknowledging this new Body, which has throughout behaved in a most courteous way towards the Grand Lodge of England.

“The Most Worshipful The GRAND MASTER:—Brethren, before I put this motion to the vote of Grand Lodge I think it would not be out of place if I were to say a few words on the resolution, not in any way as from the Chair endeavoring to forecast what the resolution of the Grand Lodge will be, but expressing an individual opinion, though an opinion which, I think, is shared by a very large number of the Brethren. We cannot, I think, but acknowledge the friendly and fraternal spirit with which the Body styling itself, as we must say at present, ‘The Grand Lodge of South Australia’ has approached this Grand Lodge. We must recognize that their request may be said to be unanimous. They have not endeavored to enforce, in fact they have repudiated the idea of enforcing, obedience on any Lodges in that district which did not wish to join them. They have approached this Grand Lodge in a most proper spirit.

If Grand Lodge decide to accept this motion I feel sure that we shall have in South Australia a body of Brethren who, although no longer directly subject to this Grand Lodge, will maintain and uphold the great traditions of English Masonry. I think it is not out of place to remember that our Colonies, although in civil matters possessing local self-government, have shown that they are ready to rally to the assistance of the mother-country whenever they may be called upon to do so, and I am sure that that spirit would exist also in Freemasonry. I trust, Brethren, speaking individually, that this motion may be accepted unanimously, and that we may wish the Grand Lodge of South Australia hearty good wishes and God-speed, and that we may recognize in it a promising addition to the Grand Lodges of the world.

“The motion was then put and declared carried unanimously.

“V. W. Brother PHILBRICK :—Most Worshipful Grand Master, the first appeal which is presented to Grand Lodge is one from the Victoria Lodge, No. 1831, at Ashfield, in New South Wales, against a ruling of the District Grand Master, forbidding the discussion in open Lodge of a resolution proposed by Brother HENRY M. DEAKIN, Junior Warden. The resolution, discussion on which was forbidden, was as follows: ‘That in the opinion of this Lodge it is desirable that an amalgamation of all the Masons in New South Wales should take place as speedily as possible,’ and that resolution was followed by another: ‘That its terms be communicated to the District Grand Master,’ and upon their being so communicated, the District Grand Master directed the Worshipful Master of the Lodge to remove it from the Paper of Agenda of the Lodge, and prevent it from being discussed therein. Whereupon, the Worshipful Master and Brethren of the Lodge have presented this appeal to Grand Lodge against that decision of the District Grand Master. The terms of that resolution, on the face, did not seem very dangerous, but from the papers which are sent forward we ascertain, both from the District Grand Master and from the Master of the Lodge, that the motion was intended and designed to cover the discussion of the question whether or not the Victoria Lodge

should renounce allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, and should enter into submission to a Body which has applied to this Grand Lodge for, and has been unanimously refused, recognition, —a body which has created itself in New South Wales entirely contrary to the desires and wishes of the great majority of the Brethren of the Craft in that Colony. But it may be desirable that Grand Lodge should understand what really is the law of Masonry on this head. So far as the Worshipful Master of a Lodge which holds under the English Constitution is concerned, he undertakes, and he solemnly binds himself to observe, among the charges which are read to him, and which he adopts upon being put into the Chair, an admission that no new Lodge can be formed without the permission of the Grand Master or his Deputy, and that no countenance ought to be given to any irregular Lodge or any person initiated therein. And with regard to the obligation of a Mason, the 204th Article of our Book of Constitutions provides that ‘A Brother who has been concerned in making Masons clandestinely, or at a Lodge which is not a regular Lodge, or for small and unworthy considerations, or who may assist in forming a new Lodge without the Grand Master’s authority, shall not be admitted as a Member, or even as a visitor, into any regular Lodge, nor shall he be entitled to relief from the Fund of Benevolence, nor to any other Masonic privilege, till he makes due submission and obtains grace.’ That is the undoubted law of the Craft; and while the allegiance of an individual Mason to his Lodge can be broken by him if he so chooses to deal with his obligation, and ignore the extent to which it may be binding on himself, that affects the individual Brother only, but the Lodge is a body which is authorized to act by its Warrant and owes its Masonic existence thereto. We know, from the moment we enter into Freemasonry, that the majority of Brethren in a Lodge bind the minority, and the minority have to submit to the will of the majority, yet in the matter of continuing to hold a Warrant, no matter what the majority, if any three Brethren of the Lodge continue, the majority cannot surrender it. And, therefore, to protect the rights of the minority, and of those who choose to adhere to their

allegiance, there is that very distinct rule made in the Book of Constitutions. That Grand Lodge does not act grudgingly in affording recognition in a proper case to an independent Body could scarcely be said after the unanimous resolution to which we have just agreed, and I am sure we all heartily wish that the new Body, which is now no longer to be spoken of as 'styling itself "The Grand Lodge of South Australia,"' may have great success in propagating the principles of Masonry, and that its career thus auspiciously begun, may go on and prosper; but it is a very different thing indeed that, in Lodges themselves, discussions should be originated as to joining Bodies we have already declined to recognize.

"Those who formed the Grand Lodge of South Australia were practically unanimous, there was not, in that case, anything like bitter discussion, or party canvassing in the Lodges; the Brethren desired to create and gave their adhesion to the new Body they were about to establish; and this they did in a way which did not involve the Lodge as such in the discussion. I may refer to the remarks of the late Grand Registrar, which I have already quoted in support of the application of the Grand Lodge of South Australia, as showing the real distinction. It is one thing when a Body unanimously desires to be recognized, but another, and very different matter, when discussion is going on in our Lodges as to the acceptance of a new Body. Debate in the various Lodges on such a topic would not promote harmony, and I do not think the Lodges are a place to originate such discussions. The Brethren who appeal, I think, admit what I put before you: they say that they claim the same liberty to discuss the matter as Grand Lodge itself would have to entertain the discussion. I can only say that, while I cannot conceive it possible that this Grand Lodge would ever entertain a discussion about setting up another, or rival Grand Lodge in England, I cannot see that the so-called parallel has any existence whatever. If we admitted such a discussion, we should be admitting one involving a disaffirmance of our loyalty to the very authority under which we exist. I could not for one moment suppose such a point could be discussed in this Grand Lodge. Indeed, I

am sure if such a suicidal resolution entered into the head of any one to propose, it would be at once rejected at the Board of Masters, and would not find its way on to the agenda paper of Grand Lodge. The District Grand Master having decided that it was an irregular motion, and not consistent with the duties of the Master, or in accordance with the Constitutions, forbade the discussion and ordered the notice to be removed from the paper. I think he was right, and therefore move that the ruling of the District Grand Master be affirmed, and the appeal be dismissed.

“V. W. THOMAS FENN, President of the Board of General Purposes:—Most Worshipful Grand Master in the Chair, I beg to second the proposition of the Grand Registrar. I think if the Grand Lodge does not uphold this ruling of the District Grand Master there would be an end to all loyalty to the Grand Master and to the authority of his Representatives. While the District Grand Master holds his Patent from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, he is bound to discountenance every act which has a tendency to connect itself with irregular Lodges, and also to discountenance any discussion in a Lodge which may tend to promote a breach of allegiance to the authorities under which it acts.

“Brother Philbrick’s motion was then put and declared carried unanimously.”

In connection with the above extracts we also add from the proceedings of a Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, held August 6, 1885, the following quotations:

“NEW SOUTH WALES.

“Grand Secretary tabled a series of schedules from the District Grand Secretary, Brother WILLIAM HIGSTRIM, containing much interesting information on the condition of the forty-four Lodges at present working under the Scottish District Grand Lodge of New South Wales. With a roll of upwards of two thousand Brethren in active membership, and the sum of £2000 at its credit, this Representative of Scottish Freemasonry in the

Colony of New South Wales holds on its career of unprecedented prosperity.

“Grand Committee directed that Brother HIGSTRIM be cordially thanked for his exhaustive statistics, and for his long-continued and invaluable services to the Craft.”

We desire to call attention to the following extract:

“DISTRICT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

“Communications were submitted from the District Grand Secretary of New South Wales, Brother WILLIAM HIGSTRIM, in which it was shown that the Grand Lodge of South Australia, recently recognized by this Grand Lodge, had, in establishing fraternal relations with the so-called Grand Lodge of New South Wales, virtually ignored the existence of the Scottish District Grand Lodge in that Colony, with its train of forty-four Lodges. On the motion of Brother DR. JOHN FALCONER, Representative of New South Wales, it was resolved to recommend to Grand Lodge to withdraw its recognition of the Grand Lodge of South Australia.”

We leave this subject for the serious notice of the Craft.

FLORIDA—1884-85.

A SPECIAL COMMUNICATION convened at Starke to dedicate the new Masonic Hall of Bradford Lodge, No. 42.

Most Worshipful R. J. PERRY, Grand Master, presiding;
Right Worshipful R. E. HUNTER *as* Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of the Fifty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, held in the Masonic Hall, city of Jacksonville, January 20, 1885.

Most Worshipful ROBERT J. PERRY, Grand Master, pre-

siding ; Right Worshipful DE WITT C. DAWKINS, Past Grand Master, Grand Secretary.

There are views expressed in the Grand Master's address that are most excellent, true, and appropriate, clothed, too, in admirable language.

The decisions of the Grand Master present nothing to be noticed, but we insert the following decision as at least entitled to consideration :

“SEVENTH.—The following case, by reason of the circumstances and location surrounding it, is of unusual interest and doubt, and hence I have admitted the correspondence entire.

“Brother JUAN S. NAVARRO, of Dr. Felix Verela Lodge, No. 64, writes :

“‘A member of this Lodge is at present (June 14) confined in the jail of Havana, and sentenced to four years' imprisonment. We have been informed by the legal representative of our Lodge in that city, as well as by other M. M.'s, that the charge upon which this Brother was incarcerated is that of robbery, inflicting wounds, etc. This crime was committed previous to the party becoming a Mason in our Lodge. At the last regular Communication of this Lodge, held on the night of June 12, it was resolved to submit to your decision the following

“‘*Query*: Can a Lodge aid with three or four hundred dollars a Brother whose case is such as is represented above, without violating either the laws or principles of the Order? Our W. M. has appealed to the case referred to in the Regulations of the Grand Lodge of last year, page 161.’

“From some of the peculiar surroundings of this case, as related to me by somewhat well-informed Brethren in the affair, I felt constrained to write as follows :

“‘*Answer*: If the Brother referred to in your communication has been legally and rightfully *convicted* of the offence charged, robbery, he would be a proper subject for Masonic discipline rather than relief; but before withholding your kind offices from him you should be well satisfied that the charge against him is

at least susceptible of strong proof. Courts of law do not always administer justice ; on the contrary, often inflict gross wrong and injustice. This Brother is in distress, has applied to you for relief and support in his afflictions, and unless you are reasonably convinced of the truth of the charge, destroying your confidence in his Masonic integrity, he claims such needed assistance as is within the length of your C. T.' ”

Our distinguished Brother DE WITT C. DAWKINS presented a report on some matters relating to the domain of foreign correspondence.

We can only speak of two questions which he treats :

We utterly and entirely disagree with our esteemed Brother in his views as to what our dear Brother calls the Grand Lodge of Vera Cruz and the Independent Symbolic Grand Lodges of Spain and South Australia.

PROCEEDINGS of the Special Communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the Masonic Hall at the city of Gainesville, February 11, 1885.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM A. MCLEAN, Past Grand Master, *as* Grand Master ; Most Worshipful DE WITT C. DAWKINS, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was convened to lay the corner-stone of the Court-House for Alachua County.

Most Worshipful ROBERT J. PERRY was elected Grand Master ; Most Worshipful De WITT C. DAWKINS, Grand Secretary.

IDAHO—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Eighteenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Idaho, held in the Masonic Hall, Boisé City, September 8, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN A. POST, Grand Master, presiding ; Right Worshipful JONAS W. BROWN, Grand Secretary.

The address of Grand Master POST is a very excellent paper, and worthy of the high position he holds in the Craft. His notice of the death of Past Grand Master PRICKETT and Past Grand Master GRIFFIN was appropriate, and the Grand Lodge paid a proper tribute to those departed Brethren. This is as it ever should be. Those who have earned the highest Masonic honor by labor and service, and administered the offices of a Grand Lodge to the satisfaction of the Brethren, the good of the Fraternity, stood firmly by the Landmarks and traditions of Masonry that nothing was done to impair either without condign condemnation, and then have left the Craft for those rewards which are promised to the "pure in heart," then the Craft only does honor to itself by honoring the memories of such departed Brethren. "So mote it be."

The Grand Master curtly and emphatically answers "*No*" to the question submitted to him, "Is it necessary that our newly-elected Master should receive Past Master's Degree before being installed?"

It is very odd that there should be no attempt to analyze the question, "What is a Past Master's *Degree*?" by those who seem to think such a thing exists.

The Grand Master convened the Grand Lodge on the 24th of June to lay the "foundation-stone" of the Capitol building at Boisé City.

The remarks of the Grand Master on the request to recognize the so-called Grand Lodge of the "Federal District of Mexico" most admirably explain the true Masonic law on the subject.

We rejoiced to read the opinion of the Grand Master on the Quebec and England difficulty.

How those Grand Lodges which have recognized South Australia and like bodies can refute the following argument of Grand Master POST is not easily understood:

"There is a serious difference existing between the Grand Lodges of England and Quebec, to wit: The American Grand Lodge was regularly formed, and has been duly recognized by all Grand Lodges on this continent. England still retains the

allegiance of several Lodges within the jurisdiction of Quebec. The natural and inevitable result is conflict. The English Lodges accept and work material which has been rejected by Lodges working under the American Grand Lodge. After bearing this for years, though always protesting against it, the Grand Lodge of Quebec has at last taken the stand which it ought to have taken long ago, and forbidden all intercourse and recognition of Lodges and Masons working in the province under any authority other than her own. The matter has not been formally presented to our attention, but the question will undoubtedly come before us at an early day, and we will then be obliged to take one side or the other. It is to be hoped that the matter may soon be amicably adjusted. Otherwise I fear it may lead to confusion among the Craft."

The Committee on Jurisprudence made the following report, which we copy because it so fully sustains the American doctrine as to Grand Lodge sovereignty :

"The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the differences existing between the Grand Lodge of England and Quebec, have carefully considered the same, and respectfully present the following report, viz.:

"While it is true that this Grand Lodge has not been officially invited by either of the Grand Lodges most immediately concerned in this question to take action in the premises, your Committee believe the question to be one of great import to the entire Masonic world. The principle involved is of universal and not local concern, and we feel the more strongly urged to action by the consideration that the distinguished Brother who has had the honor to represent the Grand Lodge of Quebec near this Grand Lodge has been called above, and cannot now raise his voice in protest against the wrongs of our Sister Grand Lodge, or seek to vindicate her rights. We cannot but regard the position of the Grand Lodge of England as unwarranted by the principles and general usages of the Masonic Fraternity.

Whatever claim to the contrary may be set up, the law of the American continent is absolute and exclusive jurisdiction for each Grand Lodge within its own borders. We deem it proper to express our hearty sympathy for our Sister Grand Lodge of Quebec, and to express the hope that fraternal communion in the fullest sense may ere long be resumed by that Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of England; and we recommend the adoption of the following resolution, and the transmission of the same, together with this report, to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Quebec:

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Idaho forbids the recognition as a Mason of any one hailing from any Lodge in the Province of Quebec, except such Lodge shall be under the obedience of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.’

“J. H. WICKERSHAM,

“G. H. DAVIS,

“C. B. HUMPHREY,

“M. G. LUNEY,

“*Committee.*”

Right Worshipful G. H. DAVIS, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented his Annual Report. It is a most able, comprehensive, analytical paper, showing care, thorough examination, and entire mastery of his position and duties.

That he is an expert Latinist he fully proves under the caption of Louisiana. That he understands the doctrine of Masonic jurisprudence is found in almost all the reviews that constitute his report. His notice of Iowa,—1884, Illinois, and Maine are examples of his power with the pen.

We thank him for Pennsylvania. The phototype copy of “Liber B” was duly sent to Idaho. We regret if it has miscarried. We say good-night to our esteemed Brother, with the sincerest fraternal regard and personal esteem.

Most Worshipful GEORGE H. DAVIS was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful JAMES H. WICKERSHAM was elected Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Forty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, held at the Armory of Battery D, in the city of Chicago, on October 6, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN R. THOMAS, Grand Master.

His address is short and without any matter requiring notice. Our distinguished Brother being a member of the Federal Congress, he says that he turned over to the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master A. T. DARRAH "the duties and responsibilities and emoluments of Grand Master."

Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master DARRAH, Acting Grand Master, presented his address. He very feelingly refers to the deceased members of the Craft. He gives the record of halls dedicated by his proxies. The proceedings on laying the corner-stone of the new Court-House of Knox County at Galesburg on the 24th of June, 1885, by Right Worshipful Brother DARRAH, as Grand Master, are given. The procession on that occasion must have been a sort of pageant. In numbers it was so large that the acting Grand Master describes it as "no man could tell the numbers thereof." The Peoria Consistory and nine different Commanderies and eight bands of music were conspicuous. We most humbly, and in great terror at such apparent ignorance, would desire to know if there was a *Masonic procession*. At the close of the ceremonies a banquet was given, and Acting Grand Master, styling himself in this address to the Grand Lodge as "your humble servant," says, "Your humble servant was made the recipient of a beautiful setting maul and silver trowel;" and again, "If your humble servant failed to do justice to either the banquet or the Grand Lodge of Illinois, you can rest assured that full justice was done each by our Right Worshipful Brethren JOHN M. PEARSON, L. L. MUNN, and OWEN SCOTT."

On the 4th of July the corner-stone of a new Court-House, Scott County, was laid by Acting Grand Master DARRAH.

Grand Master JOHN R. THOMAS made a Supplemental Address to the Grand Lodge.

Right Worshipful Past Grand Master CREGIER, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, presented a preamble and resolutions affirming the Grand Lodge sovereignty doctrine, which the Grand Lodge of Illinois has long maintained. In these resolutions it is affirmed, that the Grand Lodge of Illinois regards all Lodges in the Province of Quebec holding allegiance to any other Grand Lodge illegal and irregular, and the Grand Master is requested to issue his Edict requiring all Lodges in Illinois not to hold Masonic intercourse with such Lodges.

There is a very strong determination in the Grand Lodge of Illinois to make all Lodges harmonize in the work, and efforts are in operation for inspection for that purpose.

The Report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence is an interesting paper.

The Report of our esteemed and respected Right Worshipful Brother GURNEY, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, has been read by us with great pleasure, interest, and instruction. Brother GURNEY is an able, careful, thoughtful reviewer. He expresses what he thinks and believes. He is frank and fraternal. We most earnestly desire to express to him our sincere regard.

That we do not agree with some of his Masonic teachings is very certain. He may be right, but we cannot consent to so regard them. If he will permit us to suggest, that we fear he regards the exoteric necessities of the Craft in his jurisdiction of more importance than the esoteric principles which constitute the only foundation of Freemasonry.

We have read the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Illinois carefully, and have deep satisfaction in learning from them that the Craft is earnest, harmonious, and not indisposed to aid in the preservation of the essential principles of Ancient Freemasonry.

Most Worshipful ALEXANDER T. DARRAH was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful LOYAL L. MUNN, Grand Secretary.

INDIANA—1885.

WE have received a pamphlet containing only the reports of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, and Trustees of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Indiana.

Most Worshipful ALBERT P. CHARLES, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful WILLIAM H. SMYTHE, Grand Secretary.

IOWA—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Forty-second Grand Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Iowa, held in [Green's Opera House,] June 2, 1885.

Most Worshipful CHARLES T. GRANGER, Grand Master, presiding.

Grand Master GRANGER'S address is of marked interest. He most carefully holds the gavel, and uses it with signal ability. While there is nothing in this address which other jurisdictions have any right to criticise, yet it is but too apparent that a more rigid enforcement of the rules and regulations, customs and usages of Freemasonry in the subordinate Lodges is absolutely necessary. The Grand Master so thinks, and indeed he very plainly states in his address that it is promptly needed. We think so. The cases he cites confirm it.

Our purpose in thus writing, is to take the occasion to remark that if in any Grand Lodge jurisdiction strict obedience is not enforced to the Landmarks of Freemasonry; if lax discipline is encouraged; if direct responsibility from Subordinate to the Grand Lodge is not maintained; if there are not efficient remedies in the hands of the Grand Master for all such violations of order, obedience, unity, and harmony, then it will not be long before such Grand Lodge will by its own action cause contentions, and it might be discord, among those jurisdictions which may most unfortunately be brought in contact with it. While

every Grand Lodge is sovereign and supreme within its own jurisdiction, yet there is a duty each owes the Craft, not to put in jeopardy the harmony and Masonic accord which binds Grand Lodges in the fraternal bonds of Masonic unity and harmony.

We have carefully read this address, and feel impressed with the wisdom of the Grand Master, and the difficulties with which he has had to contend during the past year in his administration. This extract is conclusive on this view, as we think :

“The year now closing has been one of unusual correspondence. Questions pertaining to the library building, to the levy of the per capita tax at the last session, with questions incident thereto, have added largely to the labors of the Grand Master. These questions have in some respects been difficult and embarrassing. Never myself doubting the *legality* of the assessment, but from the first doubting its feasibility, I could only urge the former *as the law*, and the latter as *the* plan selected, nearly unanimously from among several proposed, by the representatives of the Subordinate Lodges in Grand Lodge assembled.

“I doubt if a year in our experience has presented more animated or difficult questions for settlement. That all are convinced is not to be expected, but that a general acquiescence prevails there is much reason for belief.”

The report of Brother THOMAS BELL and Brother SIDNEY SMITH, Committee on Library, ought to be printed in a pamphlet, so that every Lodge might read it. It is a most admirable paper. We commend it to the earnest thoughtfulness of every Mason. Few reports in any Grand Lodge proceedings can equal its style. It is a treatise of historical value,—a literary production of great merit. The Masonic library of the Grand Lodge of Iowa is a treasure out of which great light can be obtained.

Right Worshipful Brother Past Grand Master T. S. PARVIN, Grand Secretary, and Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, presented his “commis-

sion of appointment" from the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, as his representative near the Grand Lodge of Iowa. Proper proceedings thereon were had.

He also presented his "commission of appointment" as representative from something called the Grand Lodge of Mexico. Brother PARVIN can do anything, we know, but we would very much like to have witnessed his struggle to be serious in the dual capacity as representative of "the mother Grand Lodge" and this other, whatever it is.

We deplore the action of the Grand Lodge at the last moments of its session on the proposition that expulsion from the Grand Lodge does not include expulsion from the Fraternity. The Grand Lodge of Iowa is a hard-working body of speculative Masons, as its proceedings fully prove.

Our dear Brother PARVIN presented his Annual Report on Foreign Correspondence. We would much rather call this paper a book. Full, thorough, exhaustive, able, it treats of Masonic questions with such a comprehensiveness as marks it as authority in our jurisprudence.

And then the fraternal spirit which actuates all his criticisms! It may be said, we think, that in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge he reviews no subject of any importance is overlooked. Dear Brother, you are far too industrious. None of your colleagues on like Grand Lodge committees can attempt to follow your line of work. We cannot. Want of ability, of time, of industrious and long-continued labor, makes it next to impossible to adopt Brother PARVIN's work as either a precedent or a standard. To follow Brother PARVIN through his review of the reports of Committees on Foreign Correspondence would result in giving an abstract of Masonic law. We at first reading made notes of matters to be mentioned, but the pages of notes frightened us. All this? No! Therefore a plain, simple reference to the report in its entirety must suffice.

Brother PARVIN's review of Pennsylvania, like all he writes, is a synopsis of the action of our Grand Lodge.

His comment on our work is so kind, fraternal, sincere, that we salute our Brother in that spirit of love, veneration, and

respect the strength and truth of which our youth and inexperience cannot weaken.

Most Worshipful CHARLES TRUMBULL GRANGER was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Brother T. S. PARVIN was re-elected Grand Secretary.

IRELAND—1885.

LIST of officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ireland has been received. This is the only communication from this Grand Lodge that has come to our notice.

Patron, His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES.

His Grace the DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The EARL OF BRANDON, Lieutenant and C. R., Grand Secretary.

Office, Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street, Dublin.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland meets at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, on the first Thursday in the months of March, June, October, and December, at 8 o'clock P.M.

KANSAS—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Twenty-ninth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Kansas, in the hall of Emporia Lodge, No. 12, on the 18th of February, 1885.

Most Worshipful J. JAY BUCK, Grand Master, in the chair.

The address of the Grand Master is a very full and clear exposition of the condition of the Craft in the jurisdiction of Kansas.

The corner-stone of a new Court-House in Westmoreland, Pottawatomie County, was laid by Worshipful Brother SIMEON M.

FOX, commissioned by the Grand Master for that duty. On the 26th of April, 1885, Worshipful Brother JONATHAN M. ISOM was commissioned by the Grand Master to lay the corner-stone of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Salem. On the 4th of October, 1885, the Grand Master issued an Edict granting permission to McPherson Lodge, No. 172, to appear in public on the Fourth of July, to take part in the celebration of that day.

The following extract is made fully to give the grounds on which Grand Master BUCK makes the suggestion in the last lines we have quoted :

“PAST MASTER’S DEGREE.

“Several times since December 25 I have had to issue dispensations to install the officers. In one case the Master-elect had served two years as S. W., and on the 22d of December the time arrived, under their By-Laws, for installation, but a sufficient number of actual Past Masters did *not* arrive. I believe the time has come when we can without detriment lay aside this useless ornament. If no other course suggests itself, let there be a convention appendent to the Grand Lodge where that degree can be conferred.”

We do not know what is meant by the *Past Master’s Degree*. There is no such thing in our system, and, if we were allowed to explain here, no such thing can be, if our understanding of the Ritual is correct. In this jurisdiction the District Deputy Grand Masters perform the duty of installing, if necessary, or cause it properly to be done. If the officers elected are present, or if only the Master and members, any Master by service can do what had been done to him. There are many decisions made by the Most Worshipful Grand Master which are so directly connected with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge that we do not feel justified in commenting upon them.

It is a fundamental principle in Masonic jurisprudence that which IS NOT PERMITTED IS PROHIBITED. If there is usage or Landmark which the Craft must obey as the law,—a clear and positive authority to do, or a like authority not to do,—then

action on the subject, or an omission to act on it, is a violation of the law of Freemasonry.

Either by commission or omission the Masonic law is violated. For this the penalty is to be applied. The duty of a Grand Master is to see the law obeyed, and he should be possessed of such power as will vindicate the right.

We congratulate our esteemed Brother BROWN, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, on his Special Report on the question of recognizing the so-called Grand Lodges of Victoria and South Australia. As far as we are possessed of light on this question, we do not see how either body can be called a Supreme Sovereign Masonic authority. Less than these faculties will not constitute a Grand Lodge of Freemasons.

The Annual Report of our respected Brother, Right Worshipful JOHN H. BROWN, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, is a strong, clear, exhaustive review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges with which Kansas is in communication and fellowship. The report entitles our Brother to the high character of an impartial, capable, and able reviewer. We may not agree to all he has said on some matters, but we are gratified in knowing that he stands at the portals of the Grand Lodge, and gives due and timely notice of any danger that may threaten the foundations of Masonry. We greet him with our most fraternal esteem.

Most Worshipful MATTHEW M. MILLER was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful JOHN H. BROWN, re-elected Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Eighty-sixth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Kentucky, held in the Masonic Temple, Louisville, October 20, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN GRUBBS ORNDORFF, Grand Master; Right Worshipful HIRAM BASSETT, Grand Secretary.

One cannot read the address of Grand Master ORNDORFF

without fearing that much want is felt in his jurisdiction of some prompt and effective system of supervising the action of Subordinate Lodges. He reports sixty Lodges are under summons to appear to show cause why their charters should not be arrested. About twenty replies were received. This is an unfortunate condition of the interest felt in Freemasonry in Kentucky.

The Grand Master asserts the American doctrine as to Grand Lodge sovereignty is making the trouble between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and England.

We refrain from further comment on the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, so much relates to merely domestic questions.

We regret that the Grand Lodge recognized Peru and South Australia, especially after reading the report of the Committee on the differences between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and England, in which the true American doctrine of recognition of Supreme Sovereign Grand Lodges is recognized. We fear there is some contradiction between the report and the action of the Committee on these so-called Grand Lodges.

We turn with delight to the Annual Report of our esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful JAMES W. STATON, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. We have read it twice, and it is a most able, exhaustive, admirable report. He is, indeed, a writer of great force, attractive and interesting. Kentucky may be excused in some domestic needs, but as to her foreign relations, they are in the hands of a master-spirit.

We do not agree with some of the views of our distinguished Brother on Masonic law. We say so frankly. If we were not convinced that it was a duty so to enter our protest as to some of his opinions on this subject, we should feel derelict in this duty.

It cannot be that Brother STATON is so fixed in his views that on fuller reflection and more thorough investigation he will adhere to them. We think we know him by his writings too well to believe he is beyond the reach of argument on these points. Be that as it may, we offer to our Brother the assurance of a high personal and a strong fraternal esteem.

Right Worshipful B. G. WITT was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful HIRAM BASSETT was re-elected Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Seventy-third Annual Communication of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Louisiana, convened in the city of New Orleans, at the Grand Lodge Hall, on the 9th of February, 1885.

Most Worshipful JAMES L. LOBDELL, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master is a plain, concise, interesting, and careful exposition of the domestic questions of his jurisdiction. Written in an attractive style, it interests those who desire to know the condition of the Craft in Louisiana.

The Grand Master fraternally notices the deaths of several distinguished Craftsmen in his own and other Grand jurisdictions. He treats frankly the importunities of Brethren, members of Lodges, who ask all sorts of questions that ought to be answered by the Worshipful Masters of their Lodges. His statement of the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge is clear, and his assertions, we think, evince a very sound judgment.

Foreign relations are noticed, and he fraternally acknowledges the receipt, from Right Worshipful Grand Master DAY of our own jurisdiction, of the photograph copy of "Liber B."

We cordially agree with the opinion of the Grand Master on the joint occupancy of halls by Masons and other societies. It ought never to be permitted,—never!

The "Relief Fund" of the Grand Lodge seems to require special attention. The report of the Committee to which this matter was referred is interesting; but we hardly feel justified in interfering with so distinctively a domestic question.

February 9, 1885, was "Freemasons' Day" at the "Exposi-

tion" in New Orleans. From the report of that occasion it was quite creditable to the Craft. Grand Master LOBDELL made an address, which was very appropriate, and conceived in a true Masonic spirit.

The Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, CHARLES F. BUCK, followed the Grand Master, and expressed like fraternal sentences.

Governor Furnas and Governor Young replied to these addresses. The whole ceremony was very interesting, and did honor and credit to the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

We make the following extract from page 113 of the printed volume of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge :

"Submitted after the close of the Communication and approved :

"To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana :

"Your Special Committee, to whom was referred that portion of the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master relative to 'Prototype of Saint John's Lodge, Philadelphia,' respectfully report that they have duly considered the same, and find but little can be added to what has already been said by the Grand Master in his address, to express the high appreciation of our Grand Lodge, not only of the 'Prototype' itself, but of the kindly and fraternal feelings prompting the gift. As Louisiana Masons we should have a special pleasure in anything touching the early history of Pennsylvania Masonry, not because she claims to have possessed the 'first Lodge,' the 'first Grand Lodge,' the 'first Grand Lodge Hall' in the 'colonies and in the United States,' and is the 'Mother of Masonry' in our broad and happy land, but because *she is our Mother Grand Lodge*. Four of the five Lodges forming our Grand Lodge in 1812 held charters from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, viz. : Charite, No. 93, Concord, No. 117, Perseverance, No. 118, and Etoile Polaire, No. 129, dating respectively 1802, 1810, and 1811. Of

the above, Charity, 'No. 2,' became extinct in 1849, and Concorde, 'No. 3,' consolidated with Parfaite Union, No. 1.' The other two, Polar Star, 'No. 1,' and Perseverance, 'No. 4,' are now in existence, and we are happy to say in a prosperous condition. For these reasons, as well as those of fraternal courtesy, we should be pleased at any and all occurrences that may prove of profit or pleasure to our B. B. of Pennsylvania.

"We would, therefore, recommend that our Right Worshipful Grand Secretary cause a copy of this report to be appended to the copy of that portion of the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master referred to us, and to forward the same to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania as an evidence of the high estimation held by this Grand Lodge of its status and fraternal courtesy.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"JAMES C. BATCHELOR, M.D.,

"S. O. SCRUGGS,

"DAVID ARENT."

Brothers M. E. GIRARD, W. W. LEAKE, and F. DE P. VILLASUNA presented "Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence."

We have read it with care. If the distinguished Brethren whose names are affixed to this official paper will permit us to make a suggestion, it is that they have candidly expressed their opinions.

From the prefatory paragraphs of the report we find the Committee makes the following remarks:

"First, your Committee proposes to give you notice of their intention to depart from the path of not only their own immediate predecessors, but also of all the Masonic Foreign Correspondence Committees, as they at present conceive and execute their mandate, and return to the ways of olden times, as practised, at least in Louisiana, by the old men of those days, when we were little boys.

“We mean that we do not intend to, and will not, take up any report, one by one, and *seriatim* review any in all its parts, —tell you not only what style the Grand Master used in his address, but what he was pleased to have put in print, and, in addition to this, everything the Brother writing for the Foreign Correspondence Committee has chosen to inflict upon the Masonic world, however right or wrong or unmasonic it might be, and, upon that, indite a long tirade of review and criticism too often made up of unpardonable abuse, very often couched in language not only unmasonic, but not fit to appear in a Masonic report, or even an ordinarily decent family newspaper.

“Truly, it does seem to us that some Foreign Correspondence Committees think their duty consists in part in abusing generally the other Foreign Correspondence Committees; and the more severe and bitter they can be, the better they seem to think they are performing a *Masonic* duty. Really, they are doing a great wrong to the Fraternity.

“We do not wish to particularize, but some reviewers have handled the Louisiana Committee without gloves, Masonic or otherwise.”

It is too plainly shown by the above that some reviewer's hands were not only without the “*white glove*” of Masonic clothing, but they were very rough, hard, and accustomed to work with heavy tools; most likely some Entered-Apprentice undertaking the labor of a Master Mason.

After carefully reading the above extract we feel our duty is performed.

Most Worshipful DAVID R. GRAHAM was elected Grand Master, and our venerated and beloved Brother Right Worshipful J. C. BATCHELOR, M.D., was again honored by a re-election as Grand Secretary.

MAINE—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Sixty-sixth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine, held at the Masonic Hall, Portland, May 5, 1885.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM R. G. ESTES, Grand Master, presiding.

Grand Master ESTES delivered a most admirable address. It contains sentiments which ennoble their author and honor the Craft in Maine.

The Grand Master held a special session of the Grand Lodge to constitute “Ira Berry” Lodge at Bluehill; and also at Jonesport to constitute Jonesport Lodge.

The Grand Master objects to the establishment of new Lodges in small towns though a long distance from any other Lodge, as it adds no strength to Freemasonry. He thus speaks as to

“‘MASONIC BALLS.’

“It cannot but be observed by those who have the interest of our Institution at heart, that the growing tendency of the times is to attach the word ‘Masonic’ to any undertaking where dollars and cents enter into the calculation, the value of the word being its significance.

“The Grand Lodge has already adopted a Standing Regulation, in substance disapproving the public use of Masonic emblems on business cards and peddle-carts, and yet the practice of using the significant word ‘*Masonic*’ in flaming advertisements, for pecuniary purposes, is allowed to continue. It has come to my knowledge during the past year that Lodges have even voted to hold ‘Masonic Balls,’ and that flaming posters have been circulated and displayed in bar-rooms, hotel offices, and in other conspicuous places, like bills for an auction sale or horse-trot, announcing to the public that a ‘Masonic Ball’ will be given on a certain date under the auspices of such and such a Lodge. I was myself honored (?) with an invitation to one such, on which was a picture of an enormous square and com-

passes,—‘tickets one dollar!’ Neither ‘business engagements’ nor lack of the dollar prevented my acceptance. That the word ‘Masonic’ attached to such advertisements gave dignity and character to the ball, and was intended to be used for all it was worth in drawing the indiscriminate crowd, there can be no doubt. In this progressive age we may soon expect to hear of a ‘Masonic horse-trot,’ or a ‘Masonic polo’ or ‘base-ball match,’ under the auspices of some rival Lodges with ambitious officers,—to replenish the Lodge treasury,—unless a check is put upon this improper use of the word to which allusion is here made.”

We cordially agree with the above remarks. They are wise. The Craft should be impressed by the teachings thus imparted.

The following extract is from the title “Some General Reflections,” and we cannot refrain from giving it to our Brethren :

. . . “And here it may be well to pause and ask ourselves the question, Why is Freemasonry thus recognized ?

“It is not wholly because we can or cannot trace her history back to any particular period in the great march of time. It is not wholly because of her fraternal deeds and generous charities which have gladdened the homes and hearts of widows and orphans, and made the hearth-stone of many distressed Brothers warm ; for other institutions and organizations, now among the forgotten things of the past, have done noble deeds of charity. And yet, every true Mason takes a just pride in the thought and fact that the history of this great Brotherhood can thus be traced, and that her noble deeds of charity have been, according to her means, so universally bestowed.

“It is a self-evident truth that the character of every institution is moulded by the moral and social standard of the individuals composing the membership. Assuming such to be the fact, it is obvious, then, to every intelligent Mason that Freemasonry has derived her greatest popularity from the moral and social worth of her members. As proof of this, it is only necessary to examine her lists, where we shall find the names of men illustrious in the affairs of government, in educational

institutions, and in all the benevolent enterprises and business relations of the world. I assert, then, that the Institution has drawn to it such men as have given it dignity and character, and being entitled to their confidence and support, it has won their love and devotion.

“It may be said that impure and bad men have been patrons of Freemasonry. In sorrow and in deep humiliation we bow our heads and confess it to be true. And yet I assert in the face of such humiliating acknowledgment that ‘*a tree is known by its fruit.*’ We confess in sorrow that the unworthy have sometimes found their way into our Lodges, and that too many of that class remain in them undisturbed. And so there are tares to be found among the wheat, but the husbandman in his wisdom never fails to distinguish the wheat from the tares, nor does the world in its wisdom mistake the unworthy for the worthy Mason. It follows, therefore, that no unworthy man can be admitted to the membership of a Lodge only at the expense of such Lodge.

“To you, Masters and Wardens, I would say that, if you desire your Lodges to flourish and command the respect of the best citizens of your town or city, you must insist on a degree of moral worth and exalted manhood that can admit of no doubt. Suffer no man to be admitted and to enjoy your presence whose life cannot be tested and found reasonably perfect by the square, level, and plumb. If you desire a true manhood in your Lodges, you must insist on such a manhood when admitting members; and if we want to command the respect of the pure and good, we must, as individuals, conduct ourselves so as to win it. Masons should not forget that the daily life of a man is the index of his character.

“By this you cannot fail to understand that Freemasonry in Maine, as in all other places, will be commended or condemned by its merits or demerits,—as Masons live up to, or depart from, the tenets of their professions and the cardinal virtues of the Institution; because it is by its fruit that every tree is known.

“The keeping of Masonry, then, is in our own hands. Its prosperity and glory rest with us. As Masons, we should feel

that we have a duty—a high duty—to perform in trying to maintain the dignity and glory of Freemasonry as handed down to us from the fathers. It stands before us to-day, as it has stood from time immemorial, unsullied and unscarred by vandal hands, though its would-be destroyers have continued for ages to hurl their anathemas against its fair proportions; and as such it will continue to stand, if Masons will be true to their professions, because the Institution was founded upon the eternal principles of TRUTH, and TRUTH will live forever, for

‘ The eternal years of God are hers.’

“ The lesson, then, that I would impress on your minds is, that the CHARACTER of Freemasonry and its STABILITY as an Institution depend and rest upon the individual character and moral worth of its patrons.”

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of our distinguished and highly esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND. We highly value the Masonic, and indeed personal friendship of Brother DRUMMOND. There is hardly any effort of ours that would not be cheerfully and earnestly made to maintain both.

We have not been able to unite with Brother DRUMMOND in some of his Masonic views, or it may be, his opinions. We have frankly so stated in former reports. Whatever of notice we have taken of these Masonic utterances has been based on our convictions that we were trying to defend or maintain the right. We may have been mistaken. It will not be found in any such review of ours of Brother DRUMMOND’S opinions that we assumed to be dictatorial or infallible; what was asserted certainly was not so clothed.

Brother DRUMMOND we think charged us, indirectly, if it so be, in omitting to give our Brethren of the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania the opportunity, by quotations, to read what Brother DRUMMOND had to offer in support of his arguments against us.

As the notice of Pennsylvania now before us in Brother

DRUMMOND'S last report is so like all its predecessors that our Pennsylvania Brethren can, we think, be ready to form a just estimate of our Brother DRUMMOND'S style of review, and the character of his arguments.

The best reply we can make to the intimation that Brother DRUMMOND has never been fully heard by the Brethren in Pennsylvania, is to repeat every word of his last notice of *Pennsylvania*.

We do this cheerfully, only making this single remark, that the present notice of our Grand Lodge is in a far less emphatic spirit than heretofore. This gratifies us. It is the result, we hope, of our dear Brother DRUMMOND'S conclusion that it is best to avoid the self-confident tone when discussing questions on which there may be sincere differences of opinion.

“ PENNSYLVANIA, 1884.

“ We regret to learn of the decease of our old friend JOHN HANOLD. He bequeathed to the Grand Lodge all his Masonic books, Masonic clothing and jewels and Masonic jewelry, to be deposited in the Grand Lodge Library. It is said that they are valued at over \$600.

“ Several able Reports from the Committee on Appeals were presented by Brother SAMUEL HARPER, who seems to be ‘the right man in the right place.’

“ Portraits of FRANKLIN and LAFAYETTE had been procured during the year, and one of GIRARD was ordered.

“ The address of the retiring Grand Master (CONRAD B. DAY) is exceedingly able and interesting.

“ His remarks in relation to the danger of allowing innovations, however small, are worthy of a place on the walls of every Lodge hall in the land.

“ He says :

“ ‘The first innovation which tends to a violation of our ancient usages, customs, and Landmarks is like a small break along the banks of a mighty river, scarcely noticeable, but if allowed to go unchecked soon becomes the huge crevasse, which permits

the inundation of the surrounding country, and so changes its condition and appearance as to prevent its recognition.

“ ‘Thus will our usages, customs, and Landmarks be obliterated, if every attempt at change or innovation is not promptly checked and eradicated.’

“ The address of his successor (E. COPPÉE MITCHELL) is of unusual excellence.

“ We pass over all other matters to copy the following, in which he takes, in our judgment, the exactly proper position :

“ ‘And this leads me to say a word upon a matter which has been the subject of remark in the Grand Lodge of England, and in many of those upon this continent. It is well known to you all that in the early part of this year the head of the Roman Catholic Church issued an Encyclical Letter, in which he accused the Freemasons of unheard-of beliefs and unimagined purposes. It has been a matter of genuine wonder to me how such an extremely intelligent prelate and statesman, as the present Pope is reputed to be, should have been led into such erroneous statements as are contained in that Letter. It imputes to Freemasons the world over the monstrous charges of regarding marriage as creating no bond or tie ; of disseminating vice for the purpose of corrupting the young ; and generally of advocating and practising atheism, sedition, revolution, socialism and communism. If these charges had been confined in the Letter to certain European bodies claiming to be Masonic, we could understand the foundation upon which they were made, and they would not be mentioned by me, as they would not immediately concern us. But, I believe, there is no limit as to place or time mentioned in the Letter, and all Freemasons everywhere are brought under the one sweeping condemnation. It is impossible not to entertain a feeling of regret that the head of a Church which includes a large portion of the civilized people of the world, should commit himself to statements which—so far as the Freemasons of America are concerned—are absurdly untrue. In our country such charges require no answer. Our record is made. Our society is recognized, even by those who are not members of it, as based upon a belief in and reverence

for God, an acceptance of his revealed Word as our light and guide, and a faithful adherence to and teaching of all the moral and social virtues, and of obedience to the civil authorities. It is enjoined upon the Brother by the Ancient Charges, that "Whoever would be a true Mason is further to know that by the rules of his art his obligations as a subject and citizen will not be relaxed, but enforced. He is to be a lover of quiet, peaceable and obedient to the civil powers which yield him protection, and are set over him where he resides or works." These are the principles which have been taught within the Lodge on the subject of our relations to Government and the Civil Magistrate for hundreds of years. We are in no danger from this source.'

"The Report on Correspondence (112 pp.) was again presented by Brother RICHARD VAUX. He ordinarily commences his report with a dissertation, written in a most beautiful, but at the same time most forcible, style. His introduction this year is longer than usual, and at the same time, as it seems to us, more beautiful and instructive. His exhortations to adhere to the Landmarks we especially commend to our Brethren of the Western Grand Lodges.

"He explains a few matters which some hold to be variations in Masonic law. In all these matters he is intensely Pennsylvanian. His Grand Lodge is always right, and if any other differs from her, that other is always wrong. The tenacity with which he holds to this makes him sometimes seem arrogant; but it is only his sublime faith in the never-failing wisdom of his Grand Lodge. This report contains one of these characteristic utterances:

"Our Grand Lodge claims to have been established for a century and a half. During this period, outliving six generations of men, it has gained something from experience. It has stored away in its archives the traditions of the past. It has become familiar with the Landmarks. It has carefully studied the esoteric and exoteric history of Freemasonry. It has taught the essential truths of the Craft. It has removed from its Temple all dross and reprobate silver which may have been amalgamated with the fine gold of its work, ritual and ceremonial.

“‘Modestly, without ostentation or phariseeism, it presents its views on Masonic law. Believing it is right, it leaves to all true Masons their judgment whether it be so or not. Therefore, when “public ceremonies,” “public installations,” meetings at which a Lodge in its constituted, or properly termed “lawfully warranted and duly constituted” character as a Lodge of Freemasons, enters, unites, and takes part, are permitted and justified as within the domain of Lodge action, we simply protest against it as an innovation. It is violative of every Masonic Landmark. It is in direct and positive antagonism to every sound conservative teaching. It opens the door that no man can shut, to other and equally dangerous novelties.’

“Whether the latter portion of this extract makes good the first sentence many will doubt.

“He ignores the fact that the opposite usage has prevailed from a time before his Grand Lodge existed, and that that usage has been quite universal, but in spite of its antiquity and its universality it is to him a novelty, and therefore it *must* be a novelty, and a dangerous one at that! He has one habit—that of self-depreciation, especially in comparison with others—that seems to us an unfortunate one: when any one is constantly depreciating himself and what he does, and praises others and what others do, it is apt to lead us to believe that he intends to be ironical, or to remind us of Uriah Heep and of that ‘pride which apes humility.’

“Reviewing our report, he says,—

“‘In referring to the action of Grand Master DAY in striking from the roll members because Lodges had violated the rules of the Grand Lodge, he says, “This is a speedy method of visiting upon innocent candidates the sins of Lodges,” and adds, “It is contrary to ritual, Masonic law and usage in all other jurisdictions.” Our distinguished Brother entirely misunderstands the whole proceeding, and his comments therefore are wholly inapplicable. None of these Brothers are “*unmade*” Masons. All that the Grand Master has done in these cases is to compel the Lodges to do the work over again according to the law of our jurisdiction. The work, in these cases, was not done under the

law regulating this work of the Lodge, and the Grand Master required the Lodge not to do it *de novo*,—but to do it over again. The remedy in these cases was applied by requiring the Lodges to correct their own errors.’

“But if the work is not done over, what is the *status* of the candidate?

“He says further,—

“‘Our distinguished Brother quotes Noorthouck’s Constitutions, page 313, to prove that Grand Honors were given in public one hundred years ago in England, and this citation is given to intensify our shock at noting that public Grand Honors were given in Arkansas. All this shocks us still more, to think that Brother DRUMMOND justifies this public ceremony on the plea of antiquity. We thought that Brother DRUMMOND was so opposed to anything older in Masonry than yesterday, that he would not have quoted an author who was the last commentator on the *Ancient Constitutions*.’

“We are surprised that he should have so thought; especially as our adherence to ancient usages has been so well understood by our brother reporters, that they have made it a constant subject of remark. It is true that we have not confined ourselves to usages in Pennsylvania, but, unlike Brother VAUX, have held that ancient usages outside of that State are entitled to consideration.

“He says further,—

“‘We have never written anything with regard to Brother DRUMMOND, or the Grand Lodge of Maine, nor of any other Brother, or Committees of Foreign Correspondence, or Grand Lodges they represented, except in the most fraternal spirit. We challenge him to find anywhere during the very, very many years we have written on Masonic subjects, any words which could be tortured into such an unjust and unmasonic assertion as is found in what we now quote from Brother DRUMMOND:

“‘*Our Proceedings are, of course, but little read in Pennsylvania, so that the Brethren in that State depend upon Brother VAUX for information; and as he is very careful not to let us speak through his Reports, the Brethren have only his assertions to found a judgment upon.*’

“ ‘With this tribute to the generous Masonic mind and heart of Brother DRUMMOND, we leave the subject.’

“He has finally made *one* quotation from our report, and if he will look back through *his* reports, he will probably be surprised himself to find how rarely he has done this. In this case, if he had quoted what this quotation followed and formed a part of, we should have had no occasion to notice it. He had accused us of ‘general scolding’ in relation to Pennsylvania, and said we ‘carped’ at five different addresses. In reply, we referred to what we did say, and showed that we neither ‘scolded’ nor ‘carped,’ as would have been seen by any one if he had quoted our language. But he preferred to state so, rather than quote what we said and let others judge if he was right. If this had stood alone, we might not have said that of which he complains. In this very report, he speaks of the ‘intense absurdity’ of a criticism of ours. But he does not give the criticism, and thus give his readers an opportunity of deciding whether his statement is well founded, but gives them his statement and nothing more.

“We believe that if he will give his statement in his former report to which we have alluded, and then give our full reply thereto, including the quotation he did make, there is not a Brother in Pennsylvania besides himself (nor anywhere else) who will say that our remark was either ‘unjust’ or ‘unmasonic.’

“He says that he writes in a fraternal spirit: but a fraternal spirit does not enable one to interpret the words of another so well as giving the words themselves.

“He says further,—

“ ‘If we correctly quote Brother DRUMMOND, he says: “The first Lodge ever chartered on American soil was St. John’s Lodge, Boston. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in the year 1870, states the date of the charter of St. John’s Lodge to be 1783.”’

“ ‘The St. John’s Lodge of the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania had been duly organized in permanent form two years before.

“ ‘May there not be oral evidence of a warrant or charter as well as written?

“‘We incline to the opinion that our Right Worshipful Brother is not authority as to the date of the Masonic baptism of the Massachusetts Lodge. But he states it without a single reservation. Well, we may be all wrong, as usual.

“‘We extend to Brother DRUMMOND our most fraternal salutations. We esteem him, entertain for him the highest respect, regard his Masonic utterances as of the highest authority, and in this spirit we end our examination of his report.’

“The date ‘1783’ is evidently a misprint in his report for ‘1733.’ We did not claim to be authority as to the date in question: we gave the statement of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts: and if he thinks that we are in error in that, he *is* wrong, whether as usual or not.”

We have given to the Brethren of Pennsylvania the full text of Right Worshipful Brother DRUMMOND’s last notice of our Grand Lodge. They can judge for themselves if our “assertions” are impaired.

Right Worshipful FESSENDEN I. DAY was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND was re-elected Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS—1884-85.

PROCEEDINGS of Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held in the town of East Weymouth on the 17th of October, 1884, for the purpose of dedicating the new hall of Orphan’s Hope Lodge.

Most Worshipful ABRAHAM H. HOWLAND, JR., Grand Master, and Right Worshipful WILLIAM PARKMAN *as* Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of Annual Communication, held in the Masonic Temple, city of Boston, on the 10th of December, 1884.

Most Worshipful A. H. HOWLAND, JR., Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful SERENO D. NICKERSON, Recording Grand Secretary.

Grand Master HOWLAND's address is a plethoric statement of the official acts performed by him. He very clearly sets out each in its order. The Brethren of Massachusetts have thus a most interesting *résumé* of the affairs of this Grand Lodge.

We do not find in this address any special matter for notice, except the paper reported in this address under the caption of "Order as to Grand Lodge Regulations." This order recognizes certain bodies therein named "as regular and duly constituted Masonic bodies."

We have only now to remark that it may be competent for the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to regard any set of men organized and so-called Masonic bodies, but such recognition does not either make them such nor give them any other Masonic character than the ismatics which find a home in the State of Massachusetts.

Right Worshipful Past Grand Master CHARLES C. DANA, Chairman of Committee on Recognition of the Grand Lodge of South Australia, made a very full and highly interesting report. The steps taken by the Brethren in the Province of South Australia to form this Grand Lodge are given clearly and impartially.

The Committee recognizes the Grand Lodge, but states that the Mother Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, from which all the charters originated of the Lodges uniting to form the Grand Lodge of South Australia, have not yet consented to the change of allegiance of these then subordinate Lodges. While the action of the Craft was nearly unanimous, numerically considered, yet no evidence exists to show these Lodges have surrendered their original charters and taken charters from the new Masonic body, nor does it appear as yet the Mother Grand Lodges will consent to such action on the part of their subordinates.

The American doctrine is that until the Mother Grand Lodge agrees to such change of allegiance and recognizes the Grand

Lodge, it is not such supreme and sovereign Masonic body that justifies its incorporation into the bonds of fraternity with the Grand Lodges of the Craft in the States of the United States.

That the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts recognizes the Grand Lodge of South Australia does not surprise us. If the “*rites*” that have been called Masonic by the “acting Grand Lodge Regulations” already noticed are true Masonic rites, it is an easy matter to take by the hand anything calling itself Masonic.

PROCEEDINGS of Stated Communication, held in Masonic Temple in the city of Boston, December 30, 1884.

Right Worshipful FREDERICK D. ELY, Deputy Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful SERENO D. NICKERSON, Recording Grand Secretary.

This Communication was held to install the Grand Officers, and celebrate the Feast of St. John the Evangelist.

A list of the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges named in the list received during the year was acknowledged and the volumes placed in the library of Grand Lodge. For which Masonic courtesy no doubt all the Grand Lodges named in the list are grateful, at least *Pennsylvania* may so express itself.

The speeches made at the Feast of St. John the Evangelist are printed *in extenso* in the pamphlet before us. Doubtless they were eloquent, effective, and commanded the admiration of the Brethren present.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has not caused to be prepared any Report from a Committee on Correspondence.

Most Worshipful ABRAHAM HATHAWAY HOWLAND, JR., was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful SERENO D. NICKERSON re-elected Recording Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of a Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held in the city of Fall River on the 22d of May, 1885, for “the purpose of dedicating the new Masonic apartments in that city.”

Most Worshipful Grand Master HOWLAND presided, and

Right Worshipful HENRY G. FAY *as* Recording Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of Quarterly Communication, held in the Masonic Temple, city of Boston, June 10, 1885.

Grand Master HOWLAND presided; Right Worshipful SERENO NICKERSON, Recording Grand Secretary.

There was no business reported that needs special reference at this time.

PROCEEDINGS of the Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held in the town of Hyde Park, February 16, 1885.

Most Worshipful Grand Master HOWLAND presiding; Right Worshipful SERENO D. NICKERSON, Recording Grand Secretary.

The Communication was held to dedicate the new hall of Hyde Park Lodge.

PROCEEDINGS of Quarterly Communication, held in the Masonic Temple, Boston, March 11, 1885.

Most Worshipful Grand Master HOWLAND presiding; Right Worshipful SERENO D. NICKERSON, Recording Grand Secretary.

A petition was presented for a charter for a Lodge in the city of Concepcion, Chili, South America.

The Grand Master called the attention of Grand Lodge "in condemnation of the use of written or printed rituals, so called, and especially of a publication styled 'Ecce Orienti,' or rites and ceremonies of the Essenes."

Why? If Massachusetts recognize *rites* that are not Masonic, where is the difference? These *rites* may use such rituals, and why not? The inconsistency is apparent, but it has not yet reached the Masonic mind of—— Well, no matter, we only notice this *en passant*.

PROCEEDINGS of the Quarterly Communication of the Most

Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held in the Masonic Temple, city of Boston, on the 10th of September, 1884.

Most Worshipful Grand Master HOWLAND presiding; Right Worshipful SERENO D. NICKERSON, Recording Grand Secretary.

There is nothing needing special notice in this Communication.

MANITOBA—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Tenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Manitoba, held in the Masonic Hall, city of Winnepeg, February 11, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN HEADLEY BELL, Grand Master, presiding.

There is no subject mentioned in the address of the Grand Master that is not almost exclusively of domestic interest. We can in like manner class the proceedings of the Board of General Purposes. The Grand Lodge of Manitoba is in a prosperous condition; its relations with Grand Lodges are harmonious.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence has not published any report, although on page 60 of the Proceedings we find that Right Worshipful Brother WILLIAM G. SCOTT, and Right Worshipful Brother J. W. H. WILSON, and Very Worshipful Brother THOMAS ROBINSON were appointed on that Committee.

Most Worshipful CHRISTOPHER F. FORREST was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful WILLIAM G. SCOTT elected Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Semi-annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maryland, being its One Hundred and Ninety-seventh Stated Communication, held in the Masonic Temple, city of Baltimore, May, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN S. TYSON, Grand Master, presiding.

Grand Master TYSON's address is short, but excellent.

The decisions he reports are, in our view, sound Masonic law.

He refers to the invitation of Most Worshipful MYRON M. PARKER, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, to be present at the dedication, Masons' ceremony, of the Washington Monument at the Federal capital on the 21st of February last.

He indicates that the cost of printing the most admirable and valuable "History of Freemasonry in Maryland," by Right Worshipful Brother E. T. SCHULTZ, must be contributed by the Craft of the jurisdiction.

It is unfortunate that a lack of interest is manifested in so important an historical work.

He asks his Grand Lodge to order and direct that an official seal shall be prepared for the Grand Master of Masons of Maryland.

Right Worshipful F. J. S. GORGAS and W. A. CUNNINGHAM, for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a special report as to what are called Grand Lodge of *Vera Cruz* and the *Federal District of Mexico*.

By this report it appears there are *three bodies* of so-called Masons in Mexico. The Committee reports that "no records have been found by your Committee showing the existence of Masonry in Mexico prior to 1858." That in 1858-59 one LAFOU DE LADERAT, of the A. and A. Rite, went to Mexico under authority of A. PIKE, and constituted a S. C. of the "Scottish Rite," with a pretended authority to confer the E. A., F. C., and M. M., and these degrees are now conferred by the clandestine power.

In 1882 three Lodges of Symbolic Masonry were constituted

in Vera Cruz, under charters granted by the Grand Lodge of "Colon and the Island of Cuba," that Grand Lodge having declared Mexico unoccupied. These three Lodges convened January, 1883, and established "The Grand and Independent Mexican Symbolic Lodge." Three months after the A. and A. Rite, or what may be called the Laderat-Pike combination, issued a circular dated April 25, 1883, to the effect that "there will be established in the city of Mexico a Mexican body that shall be denominated '*Central Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Mexican United States*,' and shall be the only one authorized in the republic to exercise jurisdiction over the first three degrees of Masonry."

We have given all that is important from the report of our Brethren, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

We have made the above extracts from the report in order to give a clear exposition of what is called Freemasonry in Mexico. The facts thus stated prove beyond contradiction the utter absurdity of regarding any of these "*bodies*" as worthy of Masonic recognition. This we feel to be our solemn Masonic duty to assert. It is high time all this nonsense should end. The surest way to terminate it is to pay no attention to these would-be Masonic orphans, who have neither parentage nor offspring. Let them alone.

The Grand Lodge of Louisiana has issued a circular letter to the Grand Lodge, propounding certain questions as to the proper and necessary prerequisites to the recognition of Grand Lodges, and on this letter the Maryland Committee on Foreign Correspondence make a special report. This subject was postponed till next Grand Communication. [For our views on this Louisiana circular, see introductory paragraphs of our report.]

Our esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful FERDINAND J. S. GORGAS, M.D., Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the general Annual Report of that Committee. It is a plain, practical paper, which fully notices all pertinent matters under his *résumé* of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges. We read it with both interest and gratification.

Most Worshipful JOHN S. TYSON was again elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JACOB H. MEDAIRY was again elected Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of the Ninety-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, held in the Masonic Temple, city of Baltimore, November 18, 1884.

Most Worshipful JOHN S. TYSON, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful JACOB H. MEDAIRY, Grand Secretary.

We have not observed in these proceedings any subject which requires notice.

We have in our review of the proceedings of the Semi-annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, held May 12, 1885, noticed those matters of interest which marked that Communication of the venerable Grand Lodge of Maryland.

MONTANA—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of the Twentieth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Montana was opened Wednesday, October 1, 1884, in the Masonic Hall in the city of Bozeman.

Most Worshipful HUGH DUNCAN, Grand Master, presiding, and Right Worshipful CORNELIUS HEDGES, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master's address is a sensible and practical paper, that merits commendation for both its characteristics.

He decided that a man who has lost the index finger on the right hand cannot be made a Mason. Sound Masonic law.

The Grand Lodge Committee reported in regard to that portion referring to the presentation of photographic representation of the records of St. John's Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Philadelphia, Pa., under date of 1731, and the following resolutions were adopted :

“ Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby

heartily given to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for this cherished memento of the past history of our order in its early foundation in the honored jurisdiction of Pennsylvania.

“*Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Grand Master of Pennsylvania by the Grand Secretary, under the seal of this Grand Lodge.”

Our respected Brother, for whom we entertain sincere regard, Right Worshipful CORNELIUS HEDGES, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented his Annual Report.

It is all that his colleagues on Committees of Foreign Correspondence of Most Worshipful Grand Lodges require to prove that he has lost none of his ability, industry, and care in the duties of his important position.

We have read his “conclusion” with great delight.

To Brother GURNEY and Brother HEDGES we leave the further description of “the common law of Masonry.” We have heretofore so fully stated our opinions, that we will not “*rush in*” now where then these angels are treading.

Our dear Brother HEDGES is not in accord with the American doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty and supremacy. To go out of the strict line of construction, or to ignore the principles which underlie the relations between sovereign Grand Lodges, will bring trouble. It must be so. Therefore it is best to be cautious and conservative, make haste slowly, and never act on such questions as to the Masonic recognition of so-called Masonic Grand Lodges till possibility of error is as far removed as it can be from human judgment.

Most Worshipful SAMUEL W. LANGHORNE was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful CORNELIUS HEDGES re-elected Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Sixty-seventh Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Mississippi, held in the Masonic Hall, city of Jackson, on the 11th day of February, 1885.

Most Worshipful ROBERT C. PATTY, Grand Master, presiding, and Right Worshipful J. L. POWER, Grand Secretary.

We have read the proceedings of this Communication of Grand Lodge without being satisfied that any matter that engaged its attention or required its legislation is within the premises of our duty to notice.

Grand Lodge was earnestly engaged on subjects of purely domestic interest to the Craft in Mississippi.

Grand Master PATTY's address is a very plain, practical paper, and its perusal indicates he is earnest and industrious, and conscientious in the administration of the duties of his high station.

The Grand Master fraternally calls attention to the deaths of several distinguished members of the Craft.

Grand Lodge took most affectionate and appropriate notice of these deceased Brethren.

We have read with the most melancholy interest the obituary on Past Grand Masters WILLIAM FRENCH and JAMES M. HENRY.

The introductory remarks at these memorial services by Past Grand Master FREDERICK SHEED, Chairman of the Committee on Memorials of Deceased Brothers, is a finished and cultured paper.

We desire to notice that the Most Worshipful Grand Master states he intends to send all questions which in other jurisdictions belong exclusively to the Grand Master to decide to the Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, because "the existing statute" requires all decisions of the Grand Master to be referred to that Committee. This we understand to be the state of the case.

While of course it is not within our province to make any criticism on the existing statute of the Grand Lodge, as it is a domestic question of policy, yet we fear if the responsibility of such decisions, and the prompt action on them in many instances, is reposed in a Committee, accountability will be weakened, as the authority over subordinate Lodges will be lost, or if not so, greatly imperilled.

Right Worshipful Brothers JOHN T. BUCK and JOHN M. STONE, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented their Annual Report.

It is a well written, carefully prepared, and full review of the Grand Lodges they notice.

Most Worshipful I. B. MORGAN was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful J. L. POWER, re-elected Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Thirty-second Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Minnesota, convened in the Masonic Hall, city of St. Paul, January 13, 1885.

Most Worshipful HENRY R. DENNY, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful A. T. C. PIERSON, Grand Secretary.

Grand Master DENNY delivered a short address confined to subjects concerning his own jurisdiction.

Right Worshipful Brother J. A. KESTER, Grand Orator, delivered an eloquent, impressive, and instructive address.

Most Worshipful Grand Master DENNY, accompanied by Past Grand Master PIERSON, dedicated the Hall of Carnelian Lodge, No. 40, at Lake City.

The Grand Lodge required all the members of Grand Lodge to appear at its sessions in their appropriate clothing and jewels.

The Report of the Committee on "Ancient Landmarks," to which the question was referred, made a report which is so unique that we insert it *in hoc verbæ*:

“ MASONIC JEWELS.

“ *To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

“ The Committee on Ancient Landmarks is asked if there be *usage* or *law* regulating the wearing of Masonic jewels.

“ In answer your Committee say : They believe these hieroglyphic emblems of our order have been worn by the Craft from ‘a period beyond which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary.’

“ Robert Burns sang,—and has taught us to sing :

“ ‘ Oft have I met your social band,
And spent the cheerful, festive night.
Oft, honored with supreme command,
Presided o’er the sons of light,
And by *that hieroglyphic bright*,
Which none but craftsmen ever saw !
Strong mem’ry on my heart shall write
Those happy scenes when far awa’.’

“ And it seems meet that we should further sing *of* our gifted Brother :

“ ‘ What wild vows falter on the tongue
When Scots wha hae wi’ Wallace bled,
And auld Lang Syne are sung.

“ ‘ Pure hopes that lift the soul above,
Come with his Cotter’s hymn of praise,
And dreams of youth, and truth, and love,
With Logan’s banks and braes.

“ ‘ And Burns, tho’ brief the race he ran,
Tho’ rough and dark the path he trod,
Lived, died in form and soul a man,
The image of his God.

“ ‘ He kept his honesty and truth,
His independent tongue and pen,
He moved in manhood as in youth,
Pride of his fellow-men.

“ ‘Praise to the bard ! a nation stood
Beside his coffin with wet eyes,—
Her brave, her beautiful, her good,—
As when a loved one dies.’

“ The *law* of the case reads thus :

“ ‘Each member of the Grand Lodge shall appear therein,
with his proper clothing and jewel.’

“ (See G. L. Regulations, Section 79.)

“ All of which is fraternally submitted.

“ AARON GOODRICH,
“ R. H. GOVE,
“ C. H. SMITH,
“ C. M. FOOTE,
“ *Committee.*

“ Concurred in.”

Our esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful A. T. C. PIERSON, presented his Annual Report as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

It is a plain, sensible review, and clearly states his views on the several matters he deems of sufficient general Masonic interest to notice. We offer our Brother PIERSON our fraternal salutations.

Most Worshipful HENRY R. DENNY was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful A. T. C. PIERSON was re-elected Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN—1885.

TRANSACTIONS of the Forty-first Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, held in Whitney’s Opera House, in the city of Detroit, January 27, 1885.

Most Worshipful ARTHUR M. CLARK, Grand Master, presiding ; Right Worshipful WILLIAM P. INNES, Grand Secretary.

The annual address of Grand Master CLARK is a most elaborate statement of his official duties and the condition of the Craft in his jurisdiction. He merits the thanks of Freemasons for the zeal, industry, intelligence, skill, and patience he has manifested while holding the gavel. We are most happy in reading his remarks, some of which are clothed in a style and emanate from a mind of a teacher conversant with the subjects he treats.

The Grand Master instituted four Lodges; dedicated eight; granted dispensations for seven; consolidated four; issued special dispensations for election of Lodge officers to eleven Lodges.

Above all, he reports he issued seven special dispensations to confer the "Master's degree" without limiting the time required by Law.

A SPECIAL Communication was held in Masonic Hall, Marine City, May 22, 1884, to lay the corner-stone of the new City Hall.

A SPECIAL Communication was held in the Masonic Hall, Saginaw City, May 29, 1884, to lay the corner-stone of the new Court-House of Saginaw County.

A SPECIAL Communication was held in the Masonic Hall at Port Sanilac, the 1st of July, 1884, to lay the corner-stones of the new Masonic Hall of Sanilac Lodge and the Town Hall in that town.

A SPECIAL Communication was held in the Masonic Hall in the city of Kalamazoo on the 4th of July, 1884, to lay the corner-stone of the Court-House of Kalamazoo County.

Most Worshipful ARTHUR M. CLARK, Grand Master, presided on these several occasions.

Now really, we think Grand Master CLARK was a hard-working Grand Master.

We rejoice to see that he refused to give permission to Lodges to appear in "general procession" on "Decoration Day."

The decisions of the Grand Master are both wise and Masonic. There are some which arise out of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of which it is not our place to speak. But when the Grand Master takes hold of subjects regulated by the jurisprudence of Masonry, he is nearly always on the side of sound Masonic doctrine.

The Grand Lodge authorized the Grand Secretary to present to Past Grand Master CHARLES FITZ-ROY BELLOWS a Past Grand Master's jewel.

Our esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful WILLIAM P. INNES, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, made a special report. He does not accept the position of the so-called Grand Lodge of Victoria as entitling that body to recognition as a Masonic Sovereign and Supreme Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

In this we cordially agree with him. He, however, recognizes the so-called Grand Lodge of South Australia; we are at a loss to understand why.

The so-called Grand Lodge of Peru our distinguished Brother caused to be recognized at the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, and now Brother INNES seems (we only infer it) to be hardly satisfied with that action. Brother INNES now advises Peru to remove "its spurious subordinate," forasmuch as something calling itself the Grand Orient of Italy has invaded Peru.

It too often happens that married in haste, repentance comes soon after; so too it may be, that hasty recognition of so-called Grand Lodges entails thereon some later regret.

Our able and esteemed Brother is more cautious now, for he postpones the consideration of the applications of "Spain" and "Mexico" for further consideration.

The Grand Lodge legislated on many matters of domestic interest.

Our esteemed Brother INNES presented his Annual Report as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

This report thoroughly reflects the Masonic character, learning, and ability of the distinguished Chairman.

Most Worshipful JAMES H. FARNUM was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful WILLIAM P. INNES, re-elected Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Sixty-fifth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Missouri, convened in Freemasons' Hall, in the city of St. Louis, October 13, 1885.

Most Worshipful ROBERT F. STEVENSON, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful JOHN D. VINCIL, Grand Secretary.

We have been much impressed with the Grand Master's address. It is *sui generis*. We doubt if it has its like. He must be a close student of the philosophy of Bacon. It is charming to read the crisp sentences tinged with the hue of Baconian philosophy. We have read and reread portions of this address, and give only a few extracts, that our Brethren may have the pleasure we enjoyed in their perusal.

“ANNUAL ADDRESS.

“*Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Missouri:*

“The world moves, the letter ‘Humanum Genus’ to the contrary notwithstanding.

“Rotating diurnally and in revolution annually, Earth has followed her course around the great Luminary sixty-four times since the Craftsmen of Missouri first gathered in Grand Lodge capacity, and this day is made to witness the sixty-fifth anniversary of that event.

“In the darkness of those years what have we of light; in the daylight, what progress?

“Recorded in our archives are words of wisdom emanating from the talented living; exemplary characters demonstrated by the illustrious dead.

“From these, radiating like carbon sparks, come attestations of Masonic faith, flashing and scintillating down the sands of time, proving beacons bright to Masonic wanderers on barren strands.

“In the light before us, precept and example are no longer meaningless; symbolism drives bigotry before it and the veil of allegory is lifted, so that ‘we who live to-day are filled with a more present sense of the great love of God than those of old, who, groping in the dawn of knowledge, saw only dark shadows of the unknown.’

“Within our borders, the gavel of the Freemason sounds in every village nearly, where a school-house dots the landscape or a church-spire rears its point.

“With education and religion, Freemasonry travels hand in hand, advancing civilization.

“Its ranks contain as great hearts, as pure minds, as intellectual characters as can be found in earth’s expanse.”

How fresh and attractive is the following! under the caption

“ARRESTED CHARTERS.

“The first victim was Dardenne Lodge, No. 124, at O’Fallon, St. Charles County. This Lodge, in defiance of law, contracted a debt for hall, the Master and Wardens making the note. The debt has hung over them like a cloud until interest in the Lodge had ceased. The Grand Secretary had to dun repeatedly for Grand Lodge dues, and its prospects of recuperation were invisible. Their usefulness departed. I ordered a funeral.

“McGee Lodge, No. 146, at College Mound, Macon County, was next decapitated. It had ceased to meet, and a number of its members found themselves tied to a carcass from which only the knife could relieve them. It was applied.

“The Brethren at Austin, in Cass County, had been trying for some time to decently prepare the corpse of Meridian Sun, No. 405, but were unable to do so. They were relieved to the fullest extent.”

We cannot omit the following, under the caption

“FRAUD.

“The Fraternity in this jurisdiction are being constantly victimized by Masonic peddlers of what is represented as the Secret Ritual in Cipher.

“Its practical use proves a veritable stumbling-block to the possessor, and opens his eyes to the fact that a fraud has been perpetrated upon him.

“While I am of the opinion that existing law is sufficient to impose the highest penalty on Masons engaged in this business, yet the framing of an indictment sufficient to cover and sustain a case is, to a majority of Lodges, attended with difficulty.

“I therefore recommend an emphatic declaration by this Grand Lodge, that any Mason found in the jurisdiction of Missouri having in his possession, or under his control, anything written or printed, or otherwise artfully designed for the purpose of communicating or aiding in the acquirement of the secret ritual of the first three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, shall be deemed guilty of a Masonic offence.

“Using the Blue Lodge organization for the advertising and propagating reputed higher degrees, which wear the livery unauthorized while claiming the recognition of Ancient Craft Masonry, should also receive severe condemnation. It is a growing evil. A short time since I listened for ten minutes only to the opening words of what was represented would be a Masonic address in which the research and acquirements of intelligent Masons would be unfolded, exhibiting the Institution in all its purity. I am informed that after my departure there was delivered such a tirade of obscenity and vulgarity, garbed as Masonic symbolism, as would shame the fiends of hell. An illustration by means of human forms was even attempted as exemplifying the idea to be conveyed.

“This vendor of Oriental Paganism, hailing from Massachusetts, and armed with documents from New York, affirming him to be a Master Mason, Royal Arch Mason, and Knight Templar, is of intelligent appearance and possesses some use of

language, but is either ignorant of Masonic principle or a wilful perverter of Masonic Truth and Symbolism. His discourses are poison to Masonry, and his utterances and acts show him disloyal to the bodies which have certified him into respectability. I will not name him, for he can easily be recognized."

There is deep philosophy in this sentence. It contains truth so well expressed that we insert it :

"That master of speculative Freemasonry who succeeds, by means of its ceremonies, in most forcibly impressing its philosophy upon the neophyte, is the truly bright Mason and alone entitled to be numbered among those destined to receive the honors of the Craft.

"That Craftsman so impressed, will ever be found continuously seeking, and wherever God may cast his lot, practically disseminating light and knowledge among his fellows. In such a character the Divine image may be seen reflected."

After these quotations we have very little space for a full notice of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Right Worshipful ALLAN McDOWELL, Grand Lecturer, makes a full report of his work, as well as a summary of the District Lecturers. The "work," it seems, is taught by these officers. Unless great care is taken to secure uniformity there may be that terrible calamity so often found in Grand Jurisdictions, of all kinds of work done by all sorts of teachers. In our own jurisdiction the Grand Master strictly supervises the District Deputy Grand Masters to insure harmony in word and deed.

We cannot agree with the report of the Committee on the differences between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and England. What is right is always expedient, if principles are involved.

Our esteemed and beloved Brother VINCIL, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, made a report on the institution, or whatever it may be, called "the Grand Orient of France." If a member of this institution, says Brother VINCIL, asks to

visit a Lodge in any jurisdiction, he must first express his belief in *God*, or else he cannot be further questioned. As the Grand Orient does not hold that belief, is not the less contained in the greater?

The Annual Report of Brother VINCIL on Foreign Correspondence is neither so elaborate nor so characteristic as those heretofore made by him. This is a subject for regret.

It is of course a very able paper. It could not be otherwise from his pen.

We will not enter into any further discussion of questions he refers to under the caption "Pennsylvania." We have heretofore stated our views on them. Our dear Brother is not so very severe in his criticisms as in times past.

Can it be possible that anything can ever occur which for a moment will cast the shadow of a shade over the regard and esteem we entertain for one of the truest and best of our colleagues in the labor of trying to teach one another?

Most Worshipful JAMES W. BOYD was elected Grand Master, and the Reverend and Right Worshipful JOHN D. VINCIL was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Twenty-eighth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nebraska, convened and assembled in Freemasons' Hall, Omaha, Nebraska, June 23, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN J. WEMPLE, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful WILLIAM R. BOWEN, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master announced "the presence of Worshipful Brothers ALBERT PIKE and WILLIAM M. IRELAND, Past Masters respectively of Arkansas and Pennsylvania."

The address of Grand Master WEMPLE is a very admirable

paper. He has devoted anxious attention to the condition of the Craft in his jurisdiction. His duties have been onerous. He faithfully performed them. His service to the Craft has been eminently valuable. The various suggestions he makes indicate his thorough mastery of the needs of the Lodges and Brethren. He points out several matters which he regards as important for the welfare of his jurisdiction. We congratulate our Brethren of Nebraska that they have such a workman in whom they can repose confidence.

There were seventeen Lodges constituted. A very large number of official visits paid to Subordinate Lodges are reported.

Seventeen dispensations were issued for new Lodges.

The Grand Master reports communications received from Mexico and South Australia, inviting recognition as Grand Lodges.

The decisions of Grand Master WEMPLE are numerous, nineteen in all as reported by him.

We note two: first, a man having both the third and fourth fingers of his right hand amputated cannot become a Mason; second, a man blind in the left eye is not eligible to Masonry.

We cannot fully notice the decision as to the proceedings on examining a visitor. We are permitted to write, that the Committee cannot in any way prompt, by *primarily* giving any part of the ritual. The visitor must prove his ability to receive the privilege of visiting a Lodge.

Brother ALBERT PIKE began an address, so it is reported in the Proceedings, continuing three hours.

In the Grand Lodge of Nebraska is an official called *The Grand Custodian*. This Brother made a report of his labors during the Masonic year. From Brother RAWALT's report, his duties appear to be those of a Grand Master and Grand Lecturer combined, or as a coadjutor of either.

The Temperance or Liquor question is exciting attention in this Grand Lodge, and many requests were made for decisions on points involved in the relation between "liquor dealers" and Masonry. We do not propose to follow the line on which these requests were made. It is not a subject, in our view, over which

a Grand Lodge is required by any principle of Freemasonry to legislate.

Most Worshipful Brother FURNAS, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a special report on the applications of Mexico and South Australia for recognition as Masonic Grand Lodges. Brother FURNAS was not prepared to offer any resolution as to either. We most cordially unite with the views he expresses on these questions.

The Grand Orator, Right Worshipful Brother WILLIAM LEESE, delivered an oration. It is a learned historical treatise on Masonry. It would occupy too much time to follow our learned Brother down the ages from Noah till now, but we commend this oration to the thoughtful Masonic student.

As yet Nebraska has no Annual Report from its Committee on Foreign Correspondence, but ere long it will, doubtless, adopt the Grand Master's suggestions on this matter.

Most Worshipful MANOAH B. REESE was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful WM. R. BOWEN was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1884-85.

PROCEEDINGS of the Semi-Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, held in the Freemasons' Hall, city of Manchester, December 30, 1884.

Most Worshipful JOHN FRANCIS WEBSTER, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful GEORGE P. CLEAVES, Grand Secretary.

This Communication was held to exemplify the degrees. It was a great success.

PROCEEDINGS of the Ninety-sixth Annual Communication, held in Freemasons' Hall, city of Concord, May 20, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN FRANCIS WEBSTER, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful GEORGE P. CLEAVES, Grand Secretary.

Grand Master WEBSTER's address is a very practical paper. He notices the infringement of Lodge jurisdiction by one Lodge taking material within the boundaries of another Lodge, with strictures rather condemnatory of such action. He refers to the resolution of Grand Lodge directing the appointment of a Committee on the part of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire to unite with a Committee on the part of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island to define and demark the State boundary line between these States, in order to prevent subordinate Lodges in either jurisdiction from infringing on the jurisdiction of either Grand Lodge in making Masons.

Grand Master WEBSTER reports his presence with Brothers WOODMAN, DUNFORTH, McLANE, and HEATH at the dedication of the Washington Monument, in the city of Washington, on the invitation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master MYRON M. PARKER, of the District of Columbia. We had the pleasure of meeting Grand Master WEBSTER and the Representatives of his Grand Lodge on that occasion. We well remember the gratification that meeting occasioned.

The impression made on the guests by Grand Master PARKER and by the New Hampshire Brethren was most agreeable. Grand Master PARKER was so hospitable, kind, and generous in his reception and treatment of the visiting Brethren, who came on his invitation to that most interesting event, that it will ever be a happy memory for them all. We take this opportunity to remark that the striking ability and admirable taste which signalized the official and personal action of Grand Master PARKER made the occasion one never to be forgotten by those who were so fortunate as to participate in the public and Masonic ceremonies. But the *weather* was cold, oh, very cold, but the Masonic hospitality was as warm as the impulses of the Masonic heart.

Right Worshipful Brother JOSEPH W. FELLOWS, Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence, made a most able and valuable report on the inherent and sovereign power of Grand Lodges. This report was the result of a question as to the Masonic standing, if any, of bodies calling themselves Masonic which were not

sanctioned, recognized, and instituted under the authority of a Grand Lodge. This report is of great value to the Craft.

The principles it enunciates are formulated in resolutions attached to the report, which were unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

If it was within our space to reproduce this report in these pages, it would rejoice us to give to our Brethren the exhaustive arguments which mark it. The resolutions, however, will enable our Brethren to understand the line of argument adopted by Right Worshipful Brother FELLOWS.

“*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge declares its understanding of the law in relation to its powers and authority over the Craft within its jurisdiction to be,—

“*First*. That it is the supreme authority in Masonry.

“*Second*. That it has the power to determine what Masonry is.

“*Third*. That it has the power to decide what Masonic bodies are regular, wherein symbolic Masonry is used, shown, or made a part of the ceremonies.

“*Fourth*. That it has the power and authority to prohibit the Masons of its obedience from practising *as Masonic* any other rites than those which it declares to be Masonic; and from using any of its esoteric ceremonies as Masonic ceremonies in any other body than those it shall hold to be Masonic.

“*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge affirms the well-established doctrine that it is a violation of the jurisdictional rights of any Grand Lodge or other grand body for a foreign organization of the same grade or rite to establish subordinates within the jurisdiction of such grand body, and it is due as well to Masonic comity as to the watchful care of our own rights that all attempts of such a nature should meet with the stern disapproval of this Grand Lodge.”

We cordially endorse these resolutions as, in our judgment, fully defining the inherent authority of Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons.

The sovereign control and indisputable power over the three

symbolic degrees, which alone constitute ancient Freemasonry, are in Grand Lodge. Whatever claims to be Masonic outside of this limitation can only so be by the authority and consent of Grand Lodge.

The "Chapter" and "Mark" are thus created and accepted as Masonic.

Our esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful A. S. WAIT, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made his Annual Report. It is a full and instructive paper.

We have to remark that the disposition to limit the power of Grand Masters is, in our view, prejudicial to the very best interests of the Craft.

A limited power can only be regarded as a weakened authority promptly to do what the law and the Landmarks, the harmony and the prosperity of the Craft demand to be so done. A divided authority can only invite irresolution, when prompt action demands the enforcement of Masonic authority. The peril to the Craft is greater in a limited or divided authority than in the prompt action of the head of the Masonic administration.

Accountability is the test of administration over subordinates.

Most Worshipful HENRY E. BURNHAM was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful GEORGE P. CLEAVES was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Ninety-eighth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held in Taylor Hall, in the city of Trenton, January 28, 1885.

Most Worshipful and Reverend HENRY VEHS�AGE, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.

The opening remarks of the Grand Master related to the death of distinguished members of the Grand Lodge. Two Past Grand Masters are on the list of *Lights gone out* during the year.

The Grand Master refers to his visit to our Grand Lodge on the occasion of dedicating the new hall of Haddonfield Lodge, No. 130.

On the 15th of July, 1885, the Grand Master laid the cornerstone of the building of the Masonic Hall Association of Trenton.

He notes the time is coming when the Grand Lodge will be called upon to take proper action for celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of its origin.

The Grand Master remarks, "Trials for unmasonic conduct have been more numerous than in the year before, and the non-payment of dues has led to many suspensions. It has been my painful duty to suspend from office two installed officers . . . for gross unmasonic conduct."

This address is devoted to the condition of the affairs of the jurisdiction, and gives a very concise account of the Craft in New Jersey.

Right Worshipful Brother JAMES A. NORTON, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made his Annual Report.

We take the liberty of remarking on this paper, that it is conceived in the spirit and expresses the views which usually characterize the reports of our distinguished Brother. It is frank, full, fair, and courteous. He extracts from the reports he reviews the matters that impress him as important to notice, and he leaves questions that are without interest to his jurisdiction. Whenever, however, he quotes from such reports, the aptness of the quotation in its relations to general subjects fully justifies his treatment of them. We offer our Brother the sincere salutations of our most fraternal regard. Separated by a river, dividing our respective Grand Lodge boundaries, it is, we yet feel rejoiced to know, not that mystic stream which, when crossed, is a final separation of this life's associations.

Most Worshipful JOSEPH W. CONGDON was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOSEPH H. HOUGH was again elected Grand Secretary.

NEW BRUNSWICK—1884-85.

PROCEEDINGS of the Seventeenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, held in the Masonic Temple, in the city of St. John, on April 22, 1884.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM F. BUNTING, Grand Master, presiding; Very Worshipful EDWIN I. WETMORE, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master, referring to the action of "The Grand Orient of France" in striking out the belief in God and the immortality of the soul from its affirmation of Masonic principles, suggests that the several Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons might attend divine worship in some church and listen to a sermon from some Brother in holy orders immediately preceding their several Annual Grand Communications.

Our Grand Lodge did attend church on certain occasions for that purpose, in the olden time. Our illustrious and immortal Brother, GEORGE WASHINGTON, was present on one or more such occasions.

The address of Grand Master BUNTING is largely occupied in discussing questions of the power of Grand Lodges and the power of Subordinate Lodges, and who are competent to sit as members of a Grand Lodge.

These questions involve no new doctrines. The law on all of them has been long settled, and we only notice the matter now to make this suggestion.

Right Worshipful Brother JOHN V. ELLIS, Chairman of the Committee on Recognition of Sister Grand Lodges, made a most admirable report on the question of recognition of the so-called Grand Lodges of Victoria, New South Wales, Mexico, and Peru. We are rejoiced at the spirit of this report. It is wise, sound, Masonic, and the arguments are masterly.

Most Worshipful JOHN V. ELLIS was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful EDWIN I. WETMORE was re-elected Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of the Eighteenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, held in the Masonic Temple, city of St. John, on April 28, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN V. ELLIS, Grand Master, presiding, and Very Worshipful EDWIN I. WETMORE, Grand Secretary.

We do not find any subject of such general Masonic interest either in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge or the Board of General Purposes to notice specially at this time.

The Committee on Recognition of Grand Lodges recognized the Grand Lodge of South Australia, and postponed action on "Mexico and Spain."

PROCEEDINGS of a Special Communication, held in the Masonic Temple, Germain Street, in the city of St. John, on July 1, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN V. ELLIS, Grand Master, presiding; Very Worshipful EDWIN I. WETMORE, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master announced this Emergent Communication was held to unite with the Craft in celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the introduction of Freemasonry into the Province of New Brunswick. A medal was struck commemorative of the occasion.

The public ceremonies were elaborate and highly satisfactory.

Most Worshipful JOHN V. ELLIS, Grand Master; Very Worshipful EDWIN I. WETMORE, Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK—1885.

TRANSACTIONS of the One Hundred and Fourth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New York, opened in Grand Lodge Room, city of New York, June 2, 1885.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM A. BRODIE, Grand Master; Right Worshipful EDWARD M. L. EHLERS, Grand Secretary.

The address of Most Worshipful Grand Master BRODIE is an elaborate discussion of very many questions. He treats each with marked ability. There are eighteen subjects considered, under as many special captions. It may be best designated as an epitome of miscellaneous matters which the Grand Master regarded as important to the interests of his Grand Lodge.

In the paragraphs on "The Fraternal Dead," notice is made of distinguished Brethren in several Grand Jurisdictions. The Grand Master refers to the dedication of the Washington Monument, at which he, with his Grand Officers, were present.

In reference to the association of persons claiming to be Masons, under the title of "VERITAS," we prefer to give the words of Grand Master BRODIE:

"At the last annual session, on the report of the special committee on the society called 'Veritas,' the Grand Lodge adopted the committee's recommendation 'that the said society strike out the entire of the objectional and offensive language and sections of their Constitution at the earliest period, and report the same to the Grand Master, and thus purge themselves from even an implication of disloyalty,' and 'that such society Veritas, as evidence of their faith in American ideas of Freemasonry, and to set their seal of disapprobation of the misleading doctrines and offensive utterances of a newspaper known as the *Masonia*, obliterate from its Constitution the declaration that it is the organ of the society.' On the 12th day of June, 1884, the Secretary of the society Veritas reported to the Grand Master that, in pursuance of the action of the Grand Lodge, said society had at its regular meeting, held on Monday, June 9, 1884, 'resolved to strike from their Constitution all the objectional sections and phrases in question.' By this prompt action the Brethren working in the German tongue gave such evidence of their loyalty to the Grand Lodge, that no question remained with any thereto, and the Grand Master is proud to recognize in these Brethren those than whom none can be more loyal to the Grand Lodge and the principles of Freemasonry."

Under the caption "*A Vital Question*," Grand Master BRODIE thus speaks :

"Of late there has been considerable discussion in the public press and in Masonic circles in relation to a case of discipline in a Masonic Lodge in Toronto, in which the question of belief in God as requisite to Masonic good standing was involved. It is unnecessary herein to review this particular case, but I believe that the honor of our grand old Fraternity demands that in these days when infidelity is rife, and when even some so-called Masonic periodicals make light of that foundation-stone of Freemasonry,—belief in the Supreme Being,—there should go forth from official sources words on this subject of no uncertain sound. If there be no God in Masonry, aye, if belief in God be not the corner-stone upon which Freemasonry is founded, then, indeed, is it in its decadence, and its days are numbered. But, Brethren, we have not reached this low plane. I know that, as I here and now put the question to the more than seven hundred representatives of Lodges in this great jurisdiction, 'In whom do you put your trust?' that your hearts throb back the answer, 'In God.' Freemasonry is neither Godless or anti-Christian, nor is it sectarian. It embraces in its membership men of all creeds and no creed. Jew, Mohammedan, Christian, all are found within its broad fold, but none who do not acknowledge the existence of one Supreme Being, who ruleth all things, and to whom all owe allegiance. To my Hebrew Brother it is the God of Israel; to the Mohammedan, the God as revealed in the great open book of the starry-decked heavens; to the Christian, the God and Father of our Saviour Jesus Christ."

We cordially endorse these memorable sentiments. It can be said, we think without contradiction, that without God there can be no true Freemasonry.

We have in these quotations varied from our general rule not to make extracts from the Proceedings of our Sister Grand Lodges. We are happy to know that it is the exception that proves the rule, and the exception will be found here and there in these

pages. When the matter is of more than ordinary importance to the Craft, it may be best to quote the language of the text rather than make one's own interpretation of it, for the sake of accuracy and in justice to the author of the language used.

The Grand Lodge laid the corner-stone of the pedestal of the statue "Liberty enlightening the world" August 5, 1884.

Grand Master BRODIE presiding over the ceremonies, which were attractive.

There seems to be a growing interest in the Library of the Grand Lodge, which is to be encouraged by all those students of Masonic law who *think* as well as *talk* on Freemasonry.

The Hall and Asylum Fund is in a substantially sound condition.

The report of Most Worshipful JOHN L. LEWIS from the Committee on Jurisprudence contains a sentence which we rejoice to see entertained and expressed by so distinguished a Brother: "Respectfully entertaining the opinion that it is their peculiar province not so much to originate new legislation, or suggest appropriate subjects for it, as to give its views of the proper construction of existing laws." . . .

If the above wise, conservative, and much-needed assertion of a principle had been arranged in more concise words, it ought to be considered as an excerpt imperative on such Committees in all Grand Lodges.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence appears to have been prepared by our esteemed Brother Past Grand Master ANTHONY. We miss the laborious investigation of the Proceedings of Sister Grand Lodges which marked so distinctively the work of Past Grand Master SIMONS. Our Most Worshipful Brother ANTHONY has presented a very admirable paper, and we have read it with great satisfaction. Still, after so long a time being accustomed to our beloved Brother SIMONS's mode of description of those Masonic questions which belong to the work of a Chairman of a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we cannot refrain from so expressing our feelings.

Most Worshipful Brother JOHN W. SIMONS makes a special

report for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, from which we make the following extract :

“ The facts are as follows :

“ At the time of the foundation of this so-called Grand Lodge there were some seventy-five Lodges holding under the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland. Out of these, thirteen called a meeting and proceeded to establish a Grand Lodge, having invited the others to participate in the deliberations ; the others not having done so, as in fact they were not obliged to do, it follows that the assumption of authority by the minority was and is simply an act of impertinence, and has no possible claim upon our recognition.

“ The mother Grand Lodges have paid no attention to this bogus arrangement, and it is not likely they will do.

“ Personally, we believe that every State, Province, and Territory should have an independent Grand Lodge of its own ; but, according to our way of thinking, at least a majority should concur in its establishment.

“ We therefore recommend that recognition be denied to the so-called Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

“ A precisely similar state of affairs exists in the Province of Victoria, where there is an organization claiming to be a Grand Lodge, but having no right to be recognized.

“ We trust that these matters may be laid aside until further advices.

“ Fraternally submitted,

“ JOHN W. SIMONS,

“ JESSE B. ANTHONY,

“ CHARLES SACKREUTER,

Committee.”

We could have expected nothing less from so wise a Masonic jurists.

The Grand Lodge of New York is a very large body of Masons, met in annual assembly. It must of necessity be, in conformity with the rule which usually governs so large a number

of individuals, that *legislation*, or making law, or by legislation, interpreting rules, that the care, caution, and deliberation, which must mark Masonic authority, is not unlikely to be overlooked. This, we think, is to be guarded against. The position of the Grand Lodge of New York is such, the Masonic world over, that its influence for good is pronounced. If it incautiously makes mistakes, it is for evil. Thus it is, and therefore we venture in great humility thus to speak.

Most Worshipful FRANK R. LAWRENCE was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful EDWARD M. L. EHLERS was again elected Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA—1884-85.

PROCEEDINGS of the Ninety-seventh Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina, convened in the Masonic Hall, at the city of Raleigh, 8th of January, 1884.

Most Worshipful ROBERT BINGHAM, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful DONALD W. BAIN, Grand Secretary.

Grand Master BINGHAM'S address is replete with many wise thoughts, devoted to the matters of his jurisdiction, which necessarily are of deep interest to the Craft. We are interested in his remarks on "Fraternal Courtesies," which marked his visit to Boston. He elaborately discusses the condition of the "Orphans' Asylum," of which we can have no opinion. Our esteemed and distinguished Brother BINGHAM will pardon us in noticing his remarks are very full and prolix on this orphan institution, its present condition, and its pressing needs.

No report from Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Most Worshipful ROBERT BINGHAM was re-elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful DONALD W. BAIN was re-elected Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of the Ninety-eighth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina, held in the Masonic Hall, at the city of Raleigh, on the 13th of January, 1885.

Most Worshipful ROBERT BINGHAM, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful DONALD W. BAIN, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master's address has nothing of such general importance as to need special mention.

The Grand Master most fraternally notices the receipt from our Past Grand Master, and now Grand Secretary, Right Worshipful MICHAEL NISBET, of an old diploma plate, engraved in English and French, of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, which, doubtless, had been in the vault of our Grand Secretary's office for fifty years.

The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina are full of much interesting matter, which, however, is domestic, and relates to the condition of its jurisdiction. We have had no occasion on reading them to mark any that we think needs to be here commented upon. The Craft in North Carolina is in a prosperous condition, carefully guarded, we think, and there exist many motives to cause it to renewed conservative action.

There is no report from a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Most Worshipful FABIVS H. BUSBEE was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful DONALD W. BAIN was again elected Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of an Emergent Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, held at Freemason's Hall, at Windsor, June 25, 1884.

Most Worshipful Major-General J. W. LAURIE, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful B. CURREN, Grand Secretary.

The Communication was held to lay the corner-stones of the Custom-House and Post-Office at Windsor.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made a short and very appropriate address on the occasion.

PROCEEDINGS of an Emergent Communication, held in Freemason's Hall, in the city of Truro, on the 5th of July, 1884.

Most Worshipful Major-General J. W. LAURIE, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful B. CURREN, Grand Secretary.

The Communication was held to lay the corner-stones of the new Post-Office and Custom-House in the city of Truro.

PROCEEDINGS of an Emergent Communication, held at Freemason's Hall, at Pugwash, October 29, 1884.

Most Worshipful Major-General J. W. LAURIE, Grand Master; Right Worshipful Rev. F. F. SHERMAN *as* Grand Secretary.

The Communication was held to lay the corner-stone of the Episcopal Church at Pugwash.

PROCEEDINGS of the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, held in Freemason's Hall, in the city of Halifax, on the 3d of June, 1885.

Right Worshipful W. E. STARRATT, Deputy Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful D. CURREN, Grand Secretary.

We notice a remark in the address of Grand Master LAURIE which gives us great astonishment. He reports as follows,—we take his own words:

“It was with peculiar pleasure that I gave the place of honor to Royal Standard Lodge, No. 398, on the Grand Register of England, in the public procession formed by our Grand Lodge at Truro, at the laying of the foundation-stone of the Post-Office. I claim as an evidence of good feeling and mutual consideration, that a Lodge can exist among us owing allegiance to the Mother Grand Lodge, and without in any way coming in conflict on questions of jurisdiction.”

With great respect for our distinguished Brother, we must confess that such a proceeding is an open, flagrant contradiction to every principle of Grand Lodge sovereignty. It should be condemned by every Grand Lodge in the States of the United States. That a body claiming to be a Lodge of Masons rejecting, denying, or refusing allegiance to the Supreme Masonic authority of the jurisdiction in which it is located should be "*honored*," yes, honored, by the Grand Body it ignores, with a recognition, is, to our mind, the most unjustifiable abuse of Masonic power. We so emphatically notice this subject because it is worthy, we think, of such notice. At least we so thinking, have so written.

There is a report from Right Worshipful DAVID C. MOORE, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Most Worshipful Major-General J. W. LAURIE, D.C.L., was re-elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful BENJAMIN CURREN, D.C.L., was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW MEXICO—1883-84.

ON the 11th day of December, 1883, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico assembled in its Sixth Annual Communication in the hall of Silver City Lodge, No. 8, in the city of Silver City.

Most Worshipful JOHN B. WOOTTEN, Grand Master, presiding, and Right Worshipful E. M. YOUNG as Grand Secretary.

Grand Master WOOTTEN made a clear, sensible, and excellent address.

The Grand Master issued dispensation for the formation of Mimbres Lodge, No. 10, at Georgetown, Gate City Lodge, at Raton, Colfax County, and Deming Lodge, at Deming, in Grant County.

The Warrant of Alpha Lodge, No. 7, at Silver City, was surrendered.

The decisions of the Grand Master appear to be well considered and in harmony with Masonic Law.

It seems a Special Committee was appointed to prepare and submit a set of rules for trials of Grand Officers. This is odd. However, the Committee reported a code of procedure in such cases. Still more odd.

Special Communications were held to institute two Lodges; also one to consecrate (*sic*) and dedicate Socorro Lodge, No. 9, and its Hall.

The Report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is an unusually able paper. It appears to have been the joint work of each member of the Committee, Right Worshipful DAVID J. MILLER, Right Worshipful CHARLES E. WESCHE, and Right Worshipful MAX FROST, although "A. Z. H." takes the most laborious part of it. Whoever these initials represent we know not, but his ability and admirable capacity ought not to be concealed, "*stat nominis umbra*."

We have read the report with sincere gratification.

A. Z. H., in noticing Pennsylvania, thus refers to our Report for Pennsylvania:

"He says, at the opening, that he reviews 'the Proceedings of the Grand Lodges with which the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania holds fraternal relations, and yet includes us in the number as though we had been formally recognized by his Grand Lodge. We don't exactly comprehend. An explanation is in order, and Brother VAUX has the floor."

If, then, we are thus called on, we rejoice to be given an opportunity to be heard in reply to our esteemed Brother's question, that he may understand the full effect of our response.

We beg to insert an extract from the Proceedings of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, at its Communication held December 27, 1881.

The Committee on Correspondence offered the following resolution:

“Resolved, That as the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Missouri and New Mexico have adjusted the cause of their Masonic estrangement, and cordially united in Masonic intercourse, the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania hereby extends to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico the assurance of its gratification, and offers her Masonic recognition as a Sovereign Grand Lodge within her Masonic jurisdiction.

“Extract from the Minutes.

“Attest:



This we regard as a full reply to our esteemed Brother's query, and we trust it is acceptable.

Before we leave this review, under the caption *Vermont*, by our Brother “A. Z. H.,” we find the following. We give it for the instruction of our Brethren. It is Right Worshipful Brother FISHER, Chairman of the Vermont Committee, whose remark is quoted as authority:

“WHAT IS A ‘LEWIS?’

“The following information is worth dissemination. Brother FISHER, under Missouri:

“The Grand Master of Pennsylvania did according to the traditions and Landmarks of the Craft if, as was no doubt the case, the person under age was the son of a Mason,—that is, a *lewis*. By the constitutions of England, and according to the custom we have inherited, a *lewis*—that is, a son of a Mason—may be initiated at the age of eighteen. This term *lewis* is derived from the iron clamp used in operative Masonry, and inserted in large stones so as to give attachment to a pulley and

hook to raise the stones. It is given in the English Ritual as one of the emblems on the tracing-board of an Entered Apprentice. In symbolic Masonry the son of a Mason is called a lewis, as the support and aid of the failing strength of his father. But no lewis can be made without the dispensation of the Grand Master or his Deputy."

We confess this is information of which we were heretofore ignorant.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM B. CHILDERS was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful DAVID J. MILLER was re-elected Grand Secretary.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS of the Seventh Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico, held in the hall of Socorro Lodge, in the city of Socorro, November 18, 1884.

Most Worshipful CORNELIUS BENNETT *as* Grand Master; Right Worshipful DAVID J. MILLER, Grand Secretary.

Grand Master CHILDER's address was read, he not being present. There is only one matter in this address that we wish to notice. The Grand Master approves of the recognition of the so-called Grand Lodge of South Australia. We deeply regret it.

There is no report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Most Worshipful CORNELIUS BENNETT was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful ALPHEUS A. KEEN was elected Grand Secretary.

OHIO—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of the Seventy-fifth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ohio, held in the City Hall, Columbus, October 21, 1884.

Most Worshipful JOSEPH M. GOODSPEED, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master "presented in writing and read a communication."

There were seventy-seven dispensations for the election of officers of Lodges and installations. This seems to be a very large requisition.

This address is noteworthy. It shows that Grand Master GOODSPEED is a most industrious, laborious, able master-workman, for his duties were onerous, pressing, and constant. It is a great jurisdiction, Ohio; and it is not a mere place of honor, without labor, the Grand Mastership of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge laid the corner-stone of the public building in Columbus. The ceremonies were appropriate and impressive. Special Grand Orator Brother HENRY D. MOORE addressed the assemblage.

Right Worshipful Brother RICHARDS, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a special report, recommending the recognition of the so-called Grand Lodge of South Australia, and postponing action as to Victoria. Both recommendations were adopted by the Grand Lodge.

Our profound respect for the Masonic opinions of Brother RICHARDS induces us to suggest that his reasons for recommending the recognition of the Grand Lodge of South Australia lack one essential,—he does not state from the Masonic information in his possession if there is any other regular Grand Lodge that claims jurisdiction over the territory within the limits of the boundaries of the Grand Lodge of South Australia.

Our esteemed Brother also presented his annual report.

The introductory paragraphs in which our Brother opens his report call for at least a prompt denial as to their true description of our Brother's capacity and reputation as a leading Masonic authority. We have not always been able to agree with some of our esteemed Brother's views, but no one who has carefully read his Reports on Foreign Correspondence will fail to have observed the strong, able, and suggestive manner in which he has treated the subjects which, in these reports, he has considered. In the

report now before us we have nothing to add to our already frankly expressed views.

We have carefully read Brother RICHARDS' notice of "Pennsylvania," and find his criticisms pointed and crisp, but we do not regard them as now requiring explanation or argumentative support from us, since already that has been, from time to time, given on these same subjects in our former reports.

We will yet be able, we hope, to impress our distinguished Brother with the earnest and fraternal regard with which we now salute him.

Most Worshipful JOSEPH M. GOODSPEED was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN D. CALDWELL re-elected Grand Secretary.

OREGON—1884-85.

PROCEEDINGS of the Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Oregon, held in the hall of Multnomah Lodge, at Oregon City, June 26, 1884.

Most Worshipful DAVID P. MASON, Grand Master, presiding.

The object of this Special Communication was for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of the new Court-House of Clackamas County.

The address of Grand Orator Brother PETER PAQUET was very interesting, and suitable to the occasion.

PROCEEDINGS of the Thirty-fifth Annual Communication, held in the Masonic Temple, city of Portland, the 9th of June, 1885.

Most Worshipful DAVID P. MASON, Grand Master; Right Worshipful FRELON J. BABCOCK, Grand Secretary.

The sound, practical, effective moral reflections which mark the opening paragraphs of the Most Worshipful Grand Master MASON are worthy of serious thought.

The Grand Master congratulates the Craft on the unity and harmony in the jurisdiction. We have been much interested in reading the decisions of the Grand Master as reported by him. It is of the gravest importance to the Craft that the Masonic Landmarks should be inviolable. Any attempt to mutilate by construction these fundamental laws is destructive of the Fraternity, even if it is only an attempt, without success. Once permit it to be regarded as possible to change, alter, or set aside this law, then continued efforts will be made, directly and indirectly, to reach this change. There are so many motives, so many plausible excuses, so many interested persons who wish to obtain what the Landmarks forbid, that it is of not unfrequent occurrence such efforts are made. We feel the deepest anxiety on this subject. Hence it is that when proper occasion presents, the earnest expression of our views are felt to be a solemn duty we owe the Brethren.

The decision of Grand Master MASON on the eleventh question submitted to him excites our respectful protest, because it relates to a Landmark of universal obligation to all true Freemasons. The Grand Master decided in reply to this eleventh interrogatory, "The loss of the index finger of the right hand at the second joint is not sufficient to debar a candidate from the degrees of Masonry." To this we take exception. In our opinion it violates the most imperative rule of Masonry. If the joint of a finger is wanting, then why not the whole finger, or the hand? In whom and where is the infallible absolute authority to decide if it is not in the Landmark itself? It seems impossible that there should be an anatomical proviso which would override the Masonic law. We cannot here argue this question without violating the rule as to such discussion. We only most respectfully present our exception to this ruling.

The Grand Master refers to the invitation from Most Worshipful Grand Master of the District of Columbia to be present at the dedication of the Washington Monument in most fitting terms.

We rejoice at the notice Grand Master MASON gives of the labors of our esteemed Brother Right Worshipful S. F. CHAD-

WICK, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. It is rarely any Grand Master notices the labors of his Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence. In this instance it is so well deserved that it rejoices us to know our Brother's work is appreciated as it so richly deserves.

Right Worshipful Past Grand Master CHADWICK, Representative from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Louisiana, presented a series of resolutions emanating from that Grand Lodge, entitled "*A Code of Masonic International Grand Lodge Regulations*," for the adoption of the Grand Lodge. These were referred to the Committee of Masonic Law and Jurisprudence.

That Committee reported "that action of this Grand Lodge be deferred until next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge."

We take this opportunity to observe that the supreme sovereign power of a Grand Lodge is not to be limited, or restrained, by the voluntary surrender of any part of such power to any code of Masonic international regulations. We regard any such abandonment of the full exercise of its legitimate authority as destructive of the independence of a Grand Lodge, derogatory to its sovereign character, and fruitful of discord.

Brother CHADWICK made a special report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, asking for more time to consider the applications of the so-called Grand Lodges of South Australia and Mexico for recognition. This marks the strong conservatism of our Brother. We believe he will not find on full examination good substantial Masonic grounds on which to rest any proposition to recognize these bodies as Grand Lodges of Masons. So far as we are now informed, no such grounds can be presented.

We come now to the Annual Report of Right Worshipful Brother CHADWICK, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. It is a most admirable paper,—admirable. There is no such report from any other Chairman of Committees on Correspondence. Full, exhaustive, able, interesting, interspersed with true Masonic light, abounding in carefully reasoned

opinions, bright, attractive, and the evidence of labor, industry that must surprise any reader.

We feel abashed at our Brother's notice of Pennsylvania. Utterly unworthy of his kind words, we do feel gratified at their expression. That our Brethren may understand the Masonic character of Brother CHADWICK, and appreciate him as a Masonic teacher, we give the "Conclusion" of his report. We do not agree always with Brother CHADWICK's views of Masonic law; but he thus writes in

"CONCLUSION.

"We have once more finished our pleasant task. We have been roaming among pleasant workmen. What we have done is open for inspection, and we submit it to our Brethren with the belief that our aim to benefit the Craft will be appreciated if our labors should prove to be less valuable than what was expected of us. We have had opinions and have expressed them, and while the subject-matter upon which they were founded may not, after all, be as important as we deemed it to be, we feel, nevertheless, that we are responsible to our fellow-reporters for the temper and tone in which these opinions are expressed. We claim no rights in such cases which cannot be respected by the corps reportorial.

"It is not so much a question how high a Brother Mason may rise when advancing in Masonic culture, as it is how low he may sink for want of brotherly attention; and so long as it is not so much our virtues that we live by as it is our faults, we will have opinions to express. We are permitted to have faults, but it is made our duty to correct them. Virtues will take care of themselves. Should we discover errors in others while endeavoring to correct our own, we should reluctantly invade the realm of private character in offering our opinions. In Masonic matters, however, we feel restrained only by courtesy in giving our views fully. Opinions are not necessarily errors, and we find many who differ in opinion. In Masonic controversies all of our differences in opinion come from a desire to do what good we can for the Craft in our own peculiar way. Experience must be the arbiter. Were it not for Reports on Foreign Correspondence each

jurisdiction would be limited to its own borders in knowledge of other jurisdictions; every jurisdiction would be a blank to all others. It is the duty of reviewers to sound the alarm from one jurisdiction to another, in order that a knowledge of invasions, impositions upon and dangers to the interests of the Brethren may be made universal among them, and to scatter the seeds of Masonic love and Masonic ethics broadcast over the prepared soil of the Masonic field.

“As we take our yearly round, here and there we find our brother reporters freely expressing themselves on all subjects that are brought before their Grand Lodges. Some think the old way of doing things has had its day; that the new school must be heard. And here is the danger. We would that every Brother who wants a change should carry his point, if it was in anything else but Freemasonry. The disposition to legislate upon trivial matters is too strongly manifested by our Grand Lodges. To upset what has been done and to experiment with every suggestion are, by no means, strange features of the modern convention. In Masonic bodies this propensity should not be countenanced. Masonry was not founded upon whims and caprices, but was regarded as proof against them. The safeguards thrown around Freemasonry are autocratic in all respects, and they tend to exclusiveness, in which the strength of the institution is found. The more exclusive and conservative it is the stronger the discipline over the Craft; stronger the government or obedience to Masonic authority, and it is vastly more respected.

“It was not intended that a Brother should be forced to leave a Lodge of Masons to admit therein a stranger, and yet when we permit Landmarks to rest on debatable or changeable ground, we find that the prerogative of a Mason is no protection to him; that the exercise of it may be questioned; reasons may be demanded for using it at all; and the Brother thus importuned is virtually placed on his defence. In this particular we distrust the whole fabric of Freemasonry, and may look for it to become the shuttlecock for the battledoor of the self-inflated reformer in our ranks. A candidate is rejected. His friends, though the

proceedings were all regular, take occasion to resent the action of their Lodge in this matter, and burn with indignation because they cannot avenge themselves. These Masons, who forget that they are Masons on Masonic occasions, also fail to remember that they were made Masons by a strict observance of the rules, regulations, and Landmarks of Freemasonry, and could not have been so made without complying closely with their requirements. There are many who think the Landmarks unjust because they have had occasion to run counter to them. We all should know that the Landmarks, like a good mother, ought to make the Masonic student firm in his faith, and the more they exact of him the greater his love should be for them. As men differ in their walk, size, and complexion, so they differ in thought and opinion. And still men are accepted citizens. The objects that men pursue have nothing to do with these characteristics. A similar object may be pursued by men having very different opinions regarding it. Churches or congregations have, apparently, but one object, and each congregation has a different opinion or creed. Creeds are a means, like so many opinions, by which the object is reached; but in no sense are they the object itself.

“Among our brother correspondents it is well understood that they have but one purpose, and that is to promote the best interests of the Craft. But how various their opinions are as to the best means to be used to further the claims of our Masonic institution! All want to do something for the good of all. In differing in our views we must not weaken or destroy the brotherly love and respect that unites us; nor invade provinces that will consume us as a burning fire. In looking over the field of these Masonic workers we conclude that all of them hope to reach, in time, a goal where all may differ only in outward appearance,—not where each one seeks a separate goal, but where the spot is a haven of itself; where all are as one individual in the possession of it, and where each may say with Milton, ‘The spot to which I point is Paradise.’

“May every blessing be found in the pathway of our brother reporters, with whom we have spent so many pleasant hours, and

as we withdraw from them we salute one and all with the love of a Brother."

Most Worshipful THOMAS GIVINGS REAMES was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful FRELON JESSE BABCOCK was re-elected Grand Secretary.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Tenth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, in the Masonic Hall, Charlottetown, 24th June, 1885.

Most Worshipful JOHN YEO, Grand Master.

From the report of the Grand Secretary it does not appear that the Craft in that jurisdiction is prosperous. Only thirty-six new members have been received in the Lodges of this jurisdiction during the year 1884, and fifteen demitted; twenty-three suspended for non-payment of dues, five reported missing, and one dead. One lodge, "Orient," at Lorins, has made no return to Grand Lodge for some years, and eighteen members have been thus lost.

We find nothing else to notice.

Most Worshipful JOHN YEO was re-elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful B. WILSON HIGGS, Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND—1883-84.

PROCEEDINGS of Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, held in Masonic Hall, city of Providence, September 25, 1883. This Communication was opened in E. P. degree.

Most Worshipful LYMAN KLAPP, Grand Master.

This Communication was held to lay the "foundation"-stone of the "Burnside Memorial Building" in Bristol.

The ceremonies were quite elaborate, and in some respects novel, at least to us.

The orator of the day was the Hon. LEBARON B. COLT, whose address was cultured, thoughtful, and very interesting in its historical details. We would be happy to quote from that portion of it, but to do justice to the distinguished Brother's effort would require the republication of a larger portion of the oration.

PROCEEDINGS of the Semi-Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the Masonic Hall, city of Providence, November 19, 1883.

Most Worshipful LYMAN KLAPP, Grand Master, presiding.

Past Grand Master DOYLE reported verbally that a portion of the "Monitor" had been prepared. When it was resolved that a committee of seven be appointed to receive the report of "the Committee on 'Monitor,'" subject to the approval of the Grand Master. Then, it seems, this "Monitor" is to be used in the jurisdiction.

What this "Monitor" is to be, we know not.

An interesting case came before Grand Lodge on the "Report of Commissioners on trial of Brother ———."

This Brother was treasurer of a profane trust company. He embezzled of the funds \$18,000. He was tried by the local court for embezzlement and larceny, plead guilty, and was sentenced to five years in the State Prison. While in prison his Lodge suspended him "indefinitely."

The Committee think he ought to have been expelled. The report is a very able paper on the Masonic powers of the Grand Lodge in such cases. However, the Grand Lodge postponed action till next Annual Communication.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence asked time to consider the applications of the so-called Grand Lodges of Spain, Portugal, and Victoria.

“At high twelve,” the business of the Grand Lodge having been disposed of, the Grand Lodge attended a Banquet. Eighteen regular toasts were drank and responded to by distinguished members.

PROCEEDINGS of Emergent Communication, held in the hall of King Solomon’s Lodge, No. 11, East Greenwich, February 19, 1884.

Right Worshipful NEWTON D. ARNOLD, Deputy Grand Master, presiding.

The purpose was to pay the last token of respect to our late Brother CHARLES M. WILKINSON, a member of Grand Lodge and Past Master of Lodge No. 11.

PROCEEDINGS of the Ninety-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, held in Masons’ Hall, city of Providence, May 19, 1884.

Most Worshipful LYMAN KLAPP, Grand Master, presiding.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master delivered his address on the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge and its present condition. There is so much wisdom in the following paragraphs of this address that we give it for the thoughtful consideration of our Brethren :

“Freemasonry, in its deep underlying principles, is essentially different from all other human organizations. We are not only a society, but our Order is a grand old Historic Institution ; and it is important that we should ever bear in mind this great truth : that *Human Institutions, unlike those of Divine Origin, are not made but grow.* The germs of Freemasonry are of the highest antiquity. As these germs found congenial soil in the wants of our common humanity, they gradually developed under the moisture and sunshine of Divine favor, until this strong, sturdy oak of Freemasonry stands to-day with its roots reaching so far back into the past that neither the storms of adversity nor the sunshine of prosperity can do more than break off a few decaying branches, or wither and dry up some of those superfluous leaves which flutter in the passing breeze.

“The first century after the introduction of Masonry into this country it flourished and spread with wonderful rapidity. During this period the Craftsmen were busy in genuine Masonic work, and had comparatively little time, and less inclination, for making new laws. It was at the close of this first century in the history of American Freemasonry, some fifty years ago, that the social, religious, and political storm of Anti-Masonry burst upon the States, and raged with a fury seldom if ever equalled in the history of this country. Lodge-rooms were closed, active work suspended, while death rapidly reduced the roll of membership, and for a time it appeared to those outside the Fraternity that our ancient Institution, with all its traditions, legends, rights, and conservative teachings and discipline, was doomed to utter extinction. In these dark and troublous days nearly a generation passed away, during which few found admission to the Order.

“Upon the revival of Masonry, the raw recruits soon outnumbered those veterans who had survived the dark days of persecution; and it is not surprising that many of these new recruits, who were men of middle or past middle age, with habits of thought and character already fixed, should have failed to fully appreciate or assimilate the conservative teachings and discipline of such an institution as ours. These Brethren, influenced, unconsciously it may have been, by the universal drift of the times, enacted a multitude of new laws, many of them not in harmony, and others, we fear, in direct conflict with the spirit of those deep underlying principles of our Ancient Institution.

“The truth of this statement is easily ascertained by an examination of the Proceedings of the various Grand Lodges of the country during the past twenty-five or thirty years, which are filled with these new and conflicting constitutions, laws, regulations, and approved decisions.

“We feel, therefore, that there is grave cause for alarm, and that, unless there is some check to this law-making mania, the old Landmarks, laws, and usages of Ancient Craft Masonry will be buried under the rubbish of modern so-called improvements, and in place of that grand old historic institution—Freemasonry—

we shall have a modern society with everything ancient eliminated from it except the name.

“We do not wish to be understood as advocating the theory that no further legislation is necessary, for, as we have already said, human institutions must have growth; but we do wish to impress upon this Grand Lodge, with all the force and earnestness possible, the necessity of acting with great care, and only after mature deliberation, in the adoption of any new laws or regulations.

“Instead of meeting particular cases by constitutional changes and new regulations, we think in the great majority of instances it would be found that they are already provided for under our ancient laws, usages, and traditions; but if not, that it would be practicable to dispose of the larger part of them simply by vote of Grand Lodge, or by action of the Grand Master, whose high powers and prerogatives, thanks to our predecessors, have in this jurisdiction been carefully guarded and maintained, and are to-day fully recognized by Rhode Island Masons.”

The report of Brothers RUGG, BURNHAM, and HISE—the Committee on Foreign Correspondence—as to the recognition of the so-called Grand Lodges of Spain, Portugal, Peru, Mexico, and Victoria was presented.

We cordially agree with the Committee in its views as to Spain, Portugal, Peru, and Mexico. We endorse their opinions. They are wise, prudent, and sensible, and eminently in bearing with the Masonic jurisprudence adopted by the Grand Lodges of the States of the United States.

As to Victoria, we feel that the doubts existing must prevent its recognition at this time. It seems that the Grand Lodge postponed action on this report.

PROCEEDINGS of Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, held in Masonic Hall, city of Providence, June 7, 1884.

Most Worshipful LYMAN KLAPP, Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge opened in "E. A. degree," and was held to lay the foundation-stone of Freemasons' Hall, city of Providence.

There is no report from Committee on Correspondence.

Most Worshipful LYMAN KLAPP, Grand Master ; EDWIN BAKER, Grand Secretary.

SCOTLAND—1884-85.

PROCEEDINGS of the Quarterly Communication, held November, 1884, at Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh.

Right Worshipful Colonel A. C. CAMPBELL, Grand Master Depute, on the Throne.

The Grand Committee held a meeting on the 1st of December, 1884, and elected Colonel Sir ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, of Blythswood, Baronet, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful D. MURRAY LYON, Grand Secretary.

Charters were granted to a Lodge in New South Wales and Egypt.

On the festival of St. Andrew the Grand Lodge had a grand banquet.

PROCEEDINGS of the Quarterly Communication, held in Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, May 7, 1885.

"The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Brother Colonel Sir ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, of Blythswood, Baronet, on the Throne;" Right Worshipful D. MURRAY LYON, Grand Secretary.

Right Worshipful WILLIAM OFFICER, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was present.

The Grand Lodge had under consideration the preparation and publication of an authorized official Ritual or Ceremonial for the three degrees of Masonry.

Brother THOMAS B. IRONSIDE, JR., No. 160, and Brother ALEXANDER HAY, Proxy, No. 591, Master and "Convener" of

the Ceremonials Committee, addressed the Grand Lodge. Their views were inimical to such publication. The reasons given were based on sound Masonic law. The publication of such Ritual or Ceremonial would lead to the expression of what Freemasonry forbids to be written or printed, and the Committee in charge of the subject was discharged.

As this subject has attracted much attention among the Craft in Scotland, and it is of much importance to the Craft everywhere, we make the following extract from the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge which followed the discharge of the Committee on Ritual and Ceremonials:

“THE ABERDEEN CIRCULAR CASE.

“The following minute of Grand Committee of March 26 was put for confirmation: ‘In terms of notice, Brother JAMES T. S. ELLIOT submitted and read a printed circular announcing the publication of a so-called “Complete Ritual of the Craft Degrees,” signed by Brother JOHN CROMBIE, Junior Grand Warden, and A. I. McCONNOCHIE, Proxy Senior Warden, No. 150, Aberdeen, which is being extensively circulated among members of the Craft, and in which the signatories intimate, as a guarantee of the correctness of their book, that they “are both Past Masters,” “have been officers in Provincial Grand Lodge,” and “one of us is a Warden of Grand Lodge.” Brother ELLIOT said that, as the preparation of a Ceremonial with a view to establish a uniform system of working through all the Lodges had been remitted to Grand Committee by Grand Lodge, he would not further allude to the publication to which the Aberdeen circular refers than to draw attention to the fact that it bears to have been “entered at Stationers’ Hall.” It was then moved by Brother ELLIOT, seconded by Brother Colonel JAMES T. STEWART, “That having considered the circular sent out from Aberdeen, signed ‘JOHN CROMBIE’ and ‘ALEX. INKSON McCONNOCHIE,’ in reference to a Masonic publication by them, Grand Committee are of opinion that the said circular is absolutely opposed to all Masonic law and precedent, and degrades official status and Grand Lodge rank by prostituting them to

commercial advertising purposes.' Several members spoke to the motion, which was put from the Chair, and unanimously adopted.

"The Grand Master said, Brethren, I cannot tell you with what pain I refer to the minute of Grand Committee in connection with the circular that has been issued by Brethren in the province of Aberdeen, and which has so fittingly been alluded to by the Convener of the Ceremonials Committee, Brother ALEXANDER HAY. When it was first brought to my notice that Brethren had published a Ritual entered at Stationers' Hall, and had also, as a guarantee for the correctness of their work, stated that an Office-Bearer of Grand Lodge had been engaged in its compilation, I was more than astonished, and I wrote as strong a letter as I could on the subject to Grand Committee, who had it under their consideration. With regard to what has been resolved by Grand Committee I thoroughly agree. I have always been averse to anything like printing a Ritual under the authority of Grand Lodge, and in this I have been borne out by the practice of the Grand Lodge of England. I know, too, it was the opinion of one of the best of our Grand Masters who occupied this Throne, Brother the EARL OF DALHOUSIE. He clearly saw the difficulties that surrounded the question of an authorized Ritual, and set his face against it; and on this point I am at one also with the Chairman of the Ceremonials Committee in asking you to relieve him and his colleagues from the difficulties that beset their path. Brethren, when I come to find that two members of the Grand Lodge—one of them an Office-Bearer—should have had the indiscretion to affix their names to an advertisement of a book which they have registered at Stationers' Hall as a copyright Ritual of Craft Masonry, and a book which in many respects is most objectionable, I am, I repeat, more than astonished; and therefore, however painful it will be to me, I must, as carrying out my duties as Grand Master and Chairman of this Grand Lodge, move, 'That the resolution of Grand Committee be approved; that the question be remitted to Grand Committee to be further dealt with; and that in the mean time Brothers CROMBIE and McCONNOCHIE be suspended

from membership of Grand Lodge.' Brethren, I do not think that I need say more than I have said. I regret very much to take up so strong a position. I must do it, and I hope you will support the Chair in the discharge of this painful but necessary duty. I trust that the offending Brethren, when they shall have been further communicated with by Grand Committee, will see the error into which they have fallen, and do their utmost to make all the reparation they can to Grand Lodge and to the Craft. But in the mean time, and until they make ample apology, and strive, to the best of their ability, to withdraw from circulation their circular and the book to which it refers, I maintain they should not be allowed the honor of a seat in this Grand Lodge.

"Brother WILLIAM OFFICER, S.S.C., Proxy Master, No. 11, said, While sympathizing very much with the remarks of the Grand Master, and also with the view he had taken in regard to the course pursued by the two Brethren in question, he begged submissively to suggest for the consideration of the Grand Master whether or not he could see his way to withdraw the latter part of his motion, which proposed to suspend from Grand Lodge membership those Brethren, unheard and without any previous intimation.

"Brother JOHN McDONALD, Proxy Master, No. 475, supported Brother OFFICER's suggestion, especially on the ground that the services rendered by one at least of the Brethren merited some consideration.

"The Substitute Grand Master, Brother the EARL OF KINTORE, said, I must confess that the subject we are discussing is one which has been rather prominently under my consideration, and with which I have been very much occupied, hailing as I do from the quarter of the country in which those two Brethren reside. I am bound to say, at first blush the Grand Committee's resolution seemed rather strong; but when I remember that copies of the resolution were served on the parties so long ago as the end of March, I do think—and especially considering that they have held on thus long—that the manner in which they have absolutely ignored all notice, and taken no action on the

notice sent to them, amounts very nearly to an insult to this Grand Lodge. The matter should be discussed dispassionately. At the same time, I think there should be an expression of sincere sorrow that the action under review had proceeded from Aberdeen. I think that the greater the rank the greater is the responsibility; and it would need a greater master of sophistry than I profess to be to answer the question when I ask you the distinction between the action complained of and that of breaking my Masonic obligation. I must say I deplore it with all my heart. I second the resolution which has been proposed by the Grand Master.

“The Grand Master said, An appeal has been made to me as the mover of the resolution, and I would have been very glad if I had felt able to accede to it. The offenders have treated the Grand Committee in a manner of great levity. This is a very important matter for the Craft, and I do not think it can be met in any other way than what I propose. Sometimes one does feel it right to do a very unpleasant thing in the discharge of duty.

“Brother JAMES TURNER, Proxy Master, No. 132, suggested that as one of the Brethren (Brother McCONNOCHIE) was present in the meeting, he should be heard; and if he regretted the past very injudicious action, Grand Lodge might be very much guided by such an explanation.

“No explanation was offered, and the Grand Master’s motion was carried with unanimity.

“The business having terminated, Grand Lodge was closed in ample form and with solemn prayer.”

At a meeting of the “Grand Committee,” held 30th of July, 1885, we find the following:

“On the motion of Brother WILLIAM OFFICER, Convener of the Colonial Committee, it was resolved to recommend to Grand Lodge to recognize and open fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of South Australia, as had been done by the Grand Lodge of England. Further, that, as petitioned for, permission be

given to the six Scottish-holding Lodges in South Australia—Nos. 341, 555, 628, 629, 672, and 686—‘to retain in their possession the charters under which they have served, to be held by them in affectionate remembrance of their connection with the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and as a mark of their appreciation of the benefits received from their Parent Grand Lodge.’ And that Brother HUGO C. E. MUECKE, ex-District Grand Master, be cordially thanked for the services he had rendered to Grand Lodge.”

This is important, as showing that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Scotland has recognized the Grand Lodge of South Australia, but we are yet without any information as to the other Lodges in that province, and if all have recognized the Grand Lodge of South Australia as the sovereign and supreme Masonic authority by asking charters from it.

PROCEEDINGS of the Grand Lodge of Scotland from February, 1885, to January, 1886 (*sic*), being “Financial Returns, Roll of Members, Grand Officers, Representatives, Grand Stewards, Committees, etc.”

PROCEEDINGS of the “Grand Committee,” held at Freemasons’ Hall, Edinburgh, February 5, 1885.

We observe that it was resolved to grant a charter to Lodge Shaw-Stewart Leichhardt; Pelersham, *New South Wales*! This may be important as to the claim of the so-called Grand Lodge of New South Wales for Masonic recognition.

In addition to the above, at a meeting of the Grand Committee, held April 30, 1885, the District Grand Secretary of the District Grand Lodge of New South Wales, Brother WILLIAM HIGSTRIM, reported that the erection of two new Lodges has been during the quarter, “this increase will give the strength of the Scottish Constitution as forty-two Lodges in New South Wales.”

Most Worshipful Colonel Sir ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, of Blythswood, Baronet, “Grand Master Mason;” Right Worshipful D. MURRAY LYON, Grand Secretary.

A Quarterly Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Scotland was convened in Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, August 6, 1885.

Most Worshipful the Grand Master Mason, Brother Colonel Sir ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, of Blythswood, presiding; Right Worshipful D. MURRAY LYON, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was represented by her Representative, Right Worshipful Brother OFFICER.

We have already, under the caption England—1885, quoted some Proceedings of this Communication as to New South Wales.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of the One Hundred and Eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, held in the Masonic Temple, city of Charleston, December 9, 1884.

Most Worshipful W. W. HUMPHREYS, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master has no subject presented that we have a right to discuss, as it was circumscribed to domestic affairs.

Right Worshipful Brother CHARLES INGLESBY reported the death of Past Grand Master ALFRED PRICE.

Communications were reported as received from bodies that call themselves Grand Lodges,—Mexico, Spain, Peru, New South Wales, “and the Scottish Lodges in Calcutta, India;” referred to Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

We here insert an abstract of the Report of that Committee, because it is so pre-eminently sound Masonic law and sound common sense as well:

“Sundry communications have also been placed in the hands of the Committee from France, Spain, Peru, Mexico, New South Wales, Victoria, and one from Colon and Cuba recommending

the recognition of the 'Gran Logia Simbolica Independiente Mexicana.'

"Your Committee see no reason to recommend any change in the policy hitherto pursued by this Grand Lodge towards the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, and for the same reasons they are unable to recommend recognition to the Grand Lodge of Victoria.

"With reference to the applications for recognition from France, Spain, Peru, and other non-English speaking Grand Bodies, your Committee report that while we have always felt great interest in their prosperity, and most heartily wish them God-speed in all Masonic progress, it has been contrary to the settled policy of our Grand Lodge to extend recognition. In these countries there are several Grand Bodies, each claiming to be supreme and independent, and in conflict with each other. Then, too, their 'Grand Councils' and 'Grand Orients' exercise, or claim to exercise, a governing power over the Symbolic Grand Lodges and their subordinates. In a word, in these countries, from our stand-point, Masonic government is in an unstable and uncertain condition, and organized upon systems differing so widely from ours that we are unable to accept them into the sisterhood of Grand Lodges.

"From the papers before us it appears that the Grand Lodge in Mexico has been regularly organized, and has been recognized by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana as well as by the Grand Lodge of Colon and Cuba. We are also advised that efforts are being made to establish in the various Provinces of Mexico Grand Lodges corresponding to the Grand Lodges in the United States. Still, we think it wisest to wait and see whether Masonry will be more stable than civil government has up to this time been in Mexico. When that is assured we shall gladly recommend recognition.

"In regard to the Grand Lodge of South Australia, it seems that there are in that Province twenty English, seven Irish, and six Scotch Lodges, of which all but one of the English and two of the Irish Lodges have yielded allegiance to the new Grand Lodge. We concur with our Grand Secretary, however, in think-

ing it best to defer recognition until we have the assurance of the same having been first accorded by the mother Grand Lodges of England and Scotland.

“In conclusion, your Committee would earnestly recommend the careful perusal of the admirable report of our efficient Grand Secretary by every member of this Grand Lodge.

“Respectfully submitted,

“ZIMMERMAN DAVIS,

“R. F. DIVVER,

“J. P. NORRIS.”

We so fully agree with our Brethren of this Committee that it needs only to beg leave to offer our sincere appreciation of the principles which they affirm.

Our esteemed Brother Right Worshipful CHARLES INGLESBY, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the Annual Report of that Committee. We do assure our distinguished Brother that we are most happy again to salute him in the true spirit of Masonic fraternity. We have had pleasant converse with our Brother heretofore, though far apart in the flesh, yet conjoined in the spirit of Masonry.

The present report, like all our Brother has presented, is of high merit, concise, ample, and indicates the ability he possesses as a Reviewer. We hope to be able to take by the hand one of these days our esteemed Brother, and say, eye to eye, what we only now can put in type.

Most Worshipful J. EDGAR SMYTH was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful CHARLES INGLESBY, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Seventy-first Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Tennessee, held in Freemasons' Hall, at the city of Nashville, January 27, 1885.

Most Worshipful BENJAMIN R. HARRIS, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful JOHN FRIZZELL, Grand Secretary.

The annual address of Grand Master HARRIS was more than usually complete in the details of the past year's administration.

He very appropriately refers to the deceased members of the Fraternity; he held fifty-six official visitations; issued sixteen dispensations to elect and install officers; harmoniously adjusted apparent discord in two Lodges; made five decisions and received the surrendered charter of late Cotton Grove Lodge, No. 153.

We note one of the reported decisions. It was so strange, the question as asked, and equally odd that the Most Worshipful or some of the Brethren of the Lodge found it ever necessary to make the interrogatory.

We put the decision in the words reported: "The loss of the right hand debars a man from Masonry notwithstanding he has all the other necessary qualifications." It is most extraordinary, as we think, that such a question could be put in any Masonic jurisdiction which required such an answer.

The Grand Master clearly and sententiously asserts the law as to Grand Lodges declaring themselves to be lawfully established.

The correspondence of Grand Master DAY transmitting a copy of "Liber B" is given, and the Grand Lodge most fraternally thanked our Grand Master DAY for his courtesy.

The Committee on Correspondence made a special report of a matter which for the moment occasioned some unpleasant feeling between the Grand Lodge of Tennessee and the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

A Brother of Tennessee jurisdiction died in the Georgia jurisdiction of smallpox. Two Georgia Lodges paid, on the request of a member of a Tennessee Lodge, some funds for the care of the Brother during his illness. The member of the Tennessee Lodge did not repay it, nor did his Lodge. The Grand Master of Georgia addressed the Grand Master of Tennessee on the

subject. No notice was taken of this communication. The Grand Lodge of Georgia felt aggrieved, and addressed the Grand Lodge of Tennessee on the subject. That Grand Lodge raised a committee to inquire as to the matter, and it appeared there was no disrespect intended, but by accident it was not considered by the Grand Master of Tennessee, and then all were satisfied. The money was paid.

The Committee on Jurisprudence made a report that the Grand Master had no Masonic authority to grant a dispensation to elect a Worshipful Master of a Lodge, he being ineligible.

The reasons given are accepted as good Masonic law. When a Master-elect is ineligible for any cause, the Senior Warden must take the station of the Worshipful Master; the Junior Warden that of the Senior Warden; and the Grand Master can grant a dispensation to elect a Junior Warden. There never can be a vacancy in the Worshipful Master's or Senior Warden's station if a Junior Warden is duly installed as Junior Warden, for he goes to the Master's station. The vacancy only occurs in the Junior Warden station, and a dispensation to elect a Junior Warden is lawful and proper.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Right Worshipful Brother WILBUR F. FOSTER, the Chairman. It is a very careful and complete review of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodges under his notice.

We were gratified on reading our Brother's running comments on questions arising from the matters attracting his attention in the Proceedings of the several Grand Lodges. He seizes on the salient points, and treats them in a thoughtful and masterly manner. We would be very glad to quote from many of them, but it would be largely reprinting his report.

Most Worshipful HENRY M. AIKEN was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful JOHN FRIZZELL was re-elected Grand Secretary.

TEXAS—1883-84.

PROCEEDINGS of a Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, held in the hall of Holland Lodge, city of Houston, October 18, 1883.

Most Worshipful CHARLES STEWART, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful GEORGE H. BRINGHURST, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was convened to lay the "corner-stone of the new Court-House."

PROCEEDINGS of the Forty-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, convened in the city of Houston, at the Masonic Temple, December 11, 1883.

Right Worshipful WILLIAM H. NICHOLAS *as* Grand Master; Right Worshipful G. H. BRINGHURST, Grand Secretary.

Most Worshipful Grand Master STEWART was absent at Washington City. His annual address was presented by Right Worshipful Brother MARCUS F. MOTT, Past Grand Master, and read.

The Grand Master issued dispensations during the year just closed for seven new Lodges, and the removal of eleven Lodges to other locations.

In consequence of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist occurring on Sunday, the Grand Master issued seventeen dispensations to seventeen Lodges to hold public installations on some other day. We deeply deplore this. The public installation of officers of Lodges, to our view, is so at variance with the true meaning of esoteric Masonry as to be most unfortunate in its influence on the holy traditions of the Craft.

The Grand Master's decisions are important. We notice the following:

Masonic Halls cannot be used by any other society.

The loss of an eye, and half the second, or middle finger, are physical defects which disqualify applicants from being initiated.

We make the following extract in full, as it is both novel and interesting :

“On the 10th of April last Hubbard City Lodge, No. 530, issued a circular to the various Lodges in this State, stating that said Lodge, together with Aquilla Lodge, No. 196, had employed lawyers to prosecute a man who had attempted to ravish a Master Mason’s daughter, and had killed her father ; and requested the Lodges to help them pay the expenses of the prosecution. When my attention was called to this circular, I at once addressed a letter to the Master of each one of the named Lodges and informed them that, in my opinion, the issuance of such circulars was unmasonic, and requested that they desist from making such appeals to their Sister Lodges. I know that the members of Hubbard City and Aquilla Lodges were prompted by their better feelings to issue this circular, conceiving it to be their duty to have properly punished the perpetrator of this unparalleled outrage. In matters of this kind we cannot be too circumspect. In my judgment we should not as a Fraternity array ourselves as a body for the vindication of an individual wrong, no matter how great that wrong may be, and we cannot be too careful in our action in regard to matters which do not affect us so much as Masons as they concern us as citizens of a commonwealth. If Masons can in this manner be permitted to make themselves felt in the prosecution of crime before the judicial tribunals of the State, it is difficult to see where it will end. Such action can only bring injury to the Craft. Besides my own conception of this matter, I felt that under the precedent established by this Grand Body, I was right in requiring these Lodges to desist from asking other Lodges to aid them in prosecuting the case. As far back as 1853 a case somewhat analogous came before this Grand Body. Washington Lodge, No. 18, publicly offered a reward for the murderer of a member of said Lodge, and this was condemned by this Grand Lodge as an act contrary to Masonic usage. Evidently this Grand Body thought that it was improper for Masons, as such, to attempt to take the place of the constituted authorities of the country.”

We regret exceedingly to find the Grand Lodge of Texas has been incorporated by an act of the profane authority of that State. In this act it is provided that Subordinate Lodges may hold real estate, but they can neither sell nor mortgage it without the consent of the Grand Lodge.

Freemasonry exists, holds its right, privileges, and power by a title older than profane government, and more stable and enduring than any now in existence. Why, then, should this great time-honored, hoary, and sublime institution demean itself to ask from a popular, profane law-making authority the right to do its own work in its own way? Great trouble will one day come to the Craft when it thus subjects itself to the legal authority, which is often inflamed by hatred, actuated by prejudice, or instigated by partisan aims.

The Deputy Grand Master delivered his address. As heretofore, we do not yet understand the exact position of this officer. When a Grand Master is absent from the jurisdiction for a period of time, then the Deputy takes his station. This was the case at this Communication of the Grand Lodge, for Grand Master STEWART was in Congress.

We have had a like instance in this jurisdiction, but then our Grand Master performed the duty of his office. He could leave Congress and be in Philadelphia almost at any time for his official Masonic work. That could not be with Texas.

The Deputy Grand Master thus opens his address :

“ To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas :

“ Brethren ! since last we parted, I have heard
Of thy continual labor kindly word ;
The savor of thy charities is giv’n
On wings of Fame to every wind of Heav’n,
And far as our vast Brotherhood extends
E’en now upon its course of mercy wends.
Brethren ! I give thee joy ; thou hast done well ;
Thy deeds to future ages we will tell ;
In their increasing usefulness we share,
And nothing may their blessedness impair.

For, such is Mercy's quality, a deed
 Done in her name no hind'rance may impede,
 But, growing brighter, brighter still will be
 Throughout the ages of Eternity.
 Thus in our love for others we are blessed,
 As thou from thy experience can attest,
 And Wisdom's self hath taught us to believe
 More blessed 'tis to give than to receive."

We do not give this either as a precedent or an example.

The Deputy Grand Master, NICHOLAS, seems to have had quite work enough to occupy all his time, for he faithfully and earnestly gave to his duties constant attention.

We regret Right Worshipful Brother NICHOLAS did not give more specific reference to the old Indian manuscript which so beautifully amplified the Golden Rule.

Our Right Worshipful Brother J. K. P. GILLASPIE presented the Report of the Committee on Correspondence. He need not have made any apology or asked any indulgence for his first effort as a Reviewer. Though the report shows a want of familiarity with his duties, yet he will, we hope, long continue in his responsible position. We feel sure he will yet make his Masonic mark with the editorial pen.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM H. NICHOLAS was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful GEORGE H. BRINGHURST was re-elected Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS of a Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, convened in the Hall of Harmony and Tucker Lodges, in the city of Galveston, April 17, 1884.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM H. NICHOLAS, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful GEORGE H. BRINGHURST, Grand Secretary.

This Special Communication was for the purpose of dedicating the new Masonic Temple in the city of Galveston.

PROCEEDINGS of the Forty-ninth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, convened in the city of Houston, at the Masonic Temple, on December 9, 1884.

Most Worshipful Grand Master NICHOLAS in his station.

From his wonderfully able and exhaustive address he very plainly shows he has carried with him into the office of Grand Master all the industry, care, devoted attention, ceaseless supervision, and energy which he manifested as Deputy Grand Master.

His "Proclamation" on the Jubilee Year of Freemasonry in Texas is certainly a very unique document.

Right Worshipful JAMES K. P. GILLASPIE, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, made a report recognizing the Grand Lodge of South Australia.

The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas are very interesting. We have read them with great interest. It is a very hard-working Lodge, and the reports of its Standing and Special Committees evince a clear comprehension of their respective duties.

The geographical position of the Grand Lodge of Texas attracts to its action more than usual attention. On the borders of Mexico, with a population changing so markedly; with the liability to be imposed upon by adventurers, who, claiming to be Masons, are impostors; with a work in so-called Masonic Lodges, in a language foreign to that of the people of Texas; with no well-defined and conscientious opinions as to the rigid, unbending, unalterable Landmarks, usages, and customs of Freemasonry, it is of the utmost importance for the welfare and harmony of the Craft that no error, novelty, or innovation be allowed to force the way into the tiled doors of the Temple of our beloved and hoary Craft.

The Annual Report of our esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful J. K. P. GILLASPIE, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, was presented.

Our Brother's report substantiates our opinion expressed as to his capacity for his position. This report shows that our Brother is growing in strength, and he will yet become an au-

thorized Masonic authority. We tender him our fraternal salutation.

Most Worshipful BENJAMIN A. BOTTS was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful GEORGE H. BRINGHURST re-elected Grand Secretary.

UTAH—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Fourteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Utah, held in the Masonic Hall, city of Salt Lake, January 20, 1885.

Most Worshipful JAMES LOWE, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful CHRISTOPHER DIEHL, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master's address is worthy of notice, since he thus emphatically speaks:

“ILLEGAL LEGISLATION.

“When Grand Lodges go outside of their legitimate sphere of legislation they are sure to err. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, by acknowledging that the ‘Chapter,’ ‘Commandery,’ and the bodies of the ‘Scottish Rite’ are ‘duly and regular constituted’ Masonic bodies, has thrown a fire-brand into all Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, which will not be easily extinguished. The principals who promoted this kind of legislation may belong and hold membership in those bodies, but had they been true to their *alma mater*, they should have hesitated to spread such a resolution on their records. And it is very questionable whether those bodies really ever seriously demanded such a recognition, and if they did, it never officially reached us, for they would have asked it as a universal right. I myself have been for a score of years, and am now, a member of those bodies, and while it is no secret that those bodies admit none into their ranks who have not previously received the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason in a regular constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted

Masons, yet that is all that is asked. What right, then, has a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, which to all intents and purposes cannot as a body have any knowledge of any degree outside of the degrees they proclaim to legislate on, to legislate on the acknowledgment of bodies the subject of which must *per se* be foreign to them?

“As an individual Mason I believe I have a right, and I am not disloyal to my Grand Lodge if I choose to join any of the numerous charitable associations in existence, and I am as free to acknowledge that I have found no cause to regret that I became early in my Masonic life a member of the Chapter, Council, Knights Templar, or attained the Thirty-second Degree in the Scottish Rite in a just and lawful manner, and I am proud to have remained a member thereof ever since, but I firmly believe I would stultify my membership asking for a recognition where I know I have no right.

“All such legislation leads to mischief, and whether that legislation was aimed to squelch the aspiration of some new order also claiming to be Masonic and alleged to be in possession of ninety-six degrees, or of any other disappointed high-sounding title aspirant, the old adage, ‘Shoemaker, stick to thy last,’ is the best advice we should give to such legislators, and I hope the Grand Lodge will be pronounced on this subject.”

The above views of Most Worshipful Grand Master LOWE are of importance to the Craft. We fully endorse them. We believe that the true welfare, prosperity, harmony, and above all the unity of Free and Accepted Freemasonry depends entirely on the supremacy of the power of the Grand Lodges. The jurisdiction, absolute and sovereign, of the Grand Lodges over the three degrees must not be either openly or individually attacked. Freemasonry means now, what it always proclaimed, and must forever be, the symbolic degrees under the sole, exclusive, and undisputed authority of Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons.

The Grand Master states that five per cent. of the members of constituent Lodges under his jurisdiction are under suspension

for non-payment of dues. This is a remarkable statement. It is unfortunate.

Right Worshipful Brother CHRISTOPHER DIEHL, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, made a special report recognizing the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, and postponing further action on the same thing calling itself the Grand Lodge of Mexico.

We do not see how New South Wales passed under the approval of our distinguished Brother. Did he find any official consent of the Grand Lodges under which charters were granted to the Lodges who formed this Grand Lodge? Is not such consent necessary, else the Lodges are clandestine *quo ad* the Grand Lodges under whose authority their charters were granted? How else can it be?

The Annual Report of the Committee on Correspondence was presented by its Chairman, our esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful CHRISTOPHER DIEHL. It is a most admirable paper. Written with skill, evincing careful investigation, and expressing sound Masonic views, it is worthy of the author.

We were greatly interested in Brother DIEHL's remarks under the caption *Illinois*, and his treatment of our respected Brother GURNEY's report. And *Iowa* also is carefully reviewed, and our esteemed Brother PARR is ever so nicely treated.

As to *Pennsylvania*, we can only be thankful so little is charged to our discredit. Brother DIEHL in his notice of our jurisdiction most kindly yet concisely reports on so much of our Proceedings as he thinks necessary. His remarks on the Report of the Committee on Correspondence indicate a weakness that surprises us. Our Brother does not attempt to refute our views as to the foundation of Masonic law, but shields his ill-humor—can we venture to call it such?—under a quotation from Schiller's "William Tell." This is not good Masonic authority. Goethe was. If the ancient law of Masonry, or its customs, traditions, usages, Landmarks, are to be set aside under the authority of Schiller's "William Tell," then indeed the apple of discord might come again to be destroyed by the arrow of Masonic denunciation.

Oh, no, Brother DIEHL, your reply to us is very kind, but very weak. In the after-time, when the "ruins" of Masonry have "crumbled down," and you have entered upon "a fairer life" in the Temple above, we may, I trust and hope, see truth, hoary, unchanged, unchangeable, eternal truth, under the rainbow of the hallowed rays faith makes glorious.

Most Worshipful PARLEY LYCURGUS WILLIAMS was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful CHRISTOPHER DIEHL was re-elected Grand Secretary.

VERMONT—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Ninety-third Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Vermont, convened in the hall of Washington Lodge, No. 3, in the city of Burlington, June 10, 1885.

Most Worshipful OZRO MEACHAM, Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful W. H. ROOT, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master's address is a plain business paper, proving him to be a careful, active, earnest master-workman, and using his Masonic tools with wisdom and discretion for the best interests of his jurisdiction.

We rejoice in reading the views of the Grand Master under the caption *Mexico and Quebec*. Grand Master MEACHAM most thoroughly comprehends the unalterable law of Masonry on the subject of recognizing bodies claiming to be Masonic. Those bodies styling themselves the Grand Lodge of Mexico, and the Grand Lodge of the United States of Mexico, can never receive fraternal recognition from any Grand Lodge of the States of the United States under the present condition of so-called Masonry in that country. We most cordially unite in Grand Master MEACHAM's remarks on the relations between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of England. In our former

reports we have expressed what we believe to be the law on this subject, endorsed by the Grand Lodges of the United States.

The Grand Lodge requested Brother DANA to furnish his own portrait, to be placed upon the walls of the Grand Lodge. Brother DANA had been successful in procuring portraits of distinguished Masons of the Grand Lodge of Vermont.

Brother Past Grand Master HENRY H. SMITH presented to the Grand Lodge "the first and second books of its records, beginning in 1794." They had been mysteriously lost for many years, and by accident recovered by him.

The Committee on the Resolution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana asked for further time, and were authorized to report at the next Communication.

Right Worshipful Past Grand Master L. C. BUTLER, M.D., Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented his Annual Report.

After a careful reading of this able paper we laid it down with this impression, and we take great pleasure in recording it here: This is a model report.

Most Worshipful MARSH O. PERKINS was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful WILLIAM H. ROOT was re-elected Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of the One Hundred and Seventh Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Virginia, held in St. Alban's Hall, in the city of Richmond, December 8, 1884.

Most Worshipful FRANCIS H. HILL, Grand Master; Brother C. E. WINGO, Deputy Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master announces the death of Most Worshipful Grand Master HENRY WILLIAM MURRAY, who died during his term as Grand Master. The Grand Master delegated to

Right Worshipful Past Grand Master BEVERLEY R. WELLFORD, JR., the duty of preparing a eulogy on the deceased.

The Grand Master made a suggestion as to the Past Master's degree, intimating some uniform and established rule should be adopted.

We in this jurisdiction do not understand what a "Past Master's degree" is, or how it can be given, or by whom, or when. A Past Master becomes such on his installation as Worshipful Master by election. A dispensation to pass the chair carries with it all that is obtained by installation on an election as Worshipful Master. This is our rule in Pennsylvania. We cannot, therefore, discover what a Past Master's degree means.

The Grand Master notices most fraternally the receipt from Right Worshipful Past Grand Master NISBET, Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, accompanied by a resolution of thanks to Mr. WILLIAM J. JENKS, for the minutes of Fairfax Lodge, No. 43, of the jurisdiction of Virginia, from December 27, 1794, to March 6, 1801.

Past Grand Master WELLFORD's eulogy on Grand Master MURRAY was a brief biographical notice, with a most appropriate tribute to his memory.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 29, surrendered its charter, and it was accepted.

A Brother received the E. A. and F. C. degree in a regular Lodge. Soon after the Lodge was "suspended." The Brother in the mean time lost an arm, and he asked Grand Lodge to permit a Lodge to give him the last degree. This was refused by the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, which reported, it was "constrained to recommend the prayer of the petitioner be not granted." We should hope no serious intention ever existed to favor such a petition.

A Committee was appointed "to revise the Methodical Digest" of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

This we suppose to be a form of Masonic monitor, but it can hardly be that our venerable, wise, and conservative sister of Virginia would indulge in this modern way of teaching.

Grand Master MURRAY decided when in office that on a charge "speaking evil of a Brother Master Mason," and at the time of trial on the charge the Brother so spoken of was dead, the testimony of the accused cannot be received as a witness on his own behalf. The Grand Master said he had doubts on the subject. It was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, which reported against the ruling of Grand Master MURRAY. The Committee give no reasons, yet Brothers Most Worshipful WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO, Most Worshipful BEVERLEY R. WELLFORD, JR., and Most Worshipful JOHN R. PURDIE, were the members of this Committee.

Right Worshipful WILLIAM F. DRINKARD, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made his Annual Report.

It is highly creditable to his judgment, his terse and incisive dealing with Masonic law, his criticisms on the views of some of his Brethren of Committee on Foreign Correspondence. We have read this report with pleasure. We rather like its style and the frank expression of our Brother's comments on several matters he notices. We congratulate him on his work. But, my dear Brother, we have so often been subjected to the sharp reviews of our esteemed Brethren of Committee on Correspondence of some of our Sister Grand Lodges for the expression of some Masonic opinions, that we hope you will be spared them. Yet it is always best, we think, to be convinced by calm investigation of questions of Masonic law, and then fraternally, but modestly and firmly, give them utterance. This is the truer purpose of these reports. We venture so to say to our distinguished Brother DRINKARD, that he may neither falter nor be discouraged.

His notice of Pennsylvania is very kind, and is just and proper, and we thank him for it.

Most Worshipful FRANCIS H. HILL was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful WILLIAM B. ISAACS was re-elected Grand Secretary.

WASHINGTON—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Twenty-ninth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington, convened in the city of Tacoma, June 3, 1885.

Most Worshipful W. H. WHITE, Grand Master, presiding, and Right Worshipful THOMAS M. REED, Grand Secretary.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made an address carefully considered, giving wise counsel, fraternal admonitions, and lofty and dignified in both tone and sentiment. His notice of deceased Brethren was effective and fraternal.

His decisions were conceived in the inspiration of the spirit of sound Masonic law. We have read them with great satisfaction.

Grand Master WHITE thus reports to his Grand Lodge:

“On March 30 I received from acting Grand Master ALEXANDER T. DARRAH, of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, the following question to which he requested an answer:

“‘According to the authorized ritual of your jurisdiction how should a Master Mason wear his apron, with the bib turned down or corner turned up? If the latter, which corner?’

“I confess my inability to answer the question, and take this occasion of referring the matter to our Committee on Jurisprudence for the proper reply. The subject is a weighty one. There is one way, however, that a Master Mason should always wear his apron, ‘worthily.’”

Did we not find the above in an annual address of a Grand Master, it would excite our mirth. It is, anyhow, too ludicrous to be passed by with ordinary solemnity, even recognizing whence it comes.

The bib turned down, or corner turned up, and which corner, and if a Master Mason?

Well, the punctilio of the bib will be sadly disgusted. The Craft in Illinois deserve great praise for the search they are making for Masonic knowledge. If the bib of Illinois is

turned the wrong way, then indeed there will be consternation in the Craft. Think of it! the bib of a Master Mason with a corner turned up. Surely there can be no "*corners*" in *bibs* in that great and powerful jurisdiction.

The remarks of the Grand Master on the encyclical letter of the present Pope are, we think, rather pronounced, more so than it deserves.

Freemasonry, as we believe, is beyond the power of successful attack from any Pope, Potentate, or Parliament. It stands on eternal foundations. It is older than governments, peoples, or languages, and thus has no contemporaries. It can, in the silence of its successful longevity, listen unmoved to the denunciations of powers that are, yet may not be, in the coming time. So long as Freemasonry minds its own business, protects its temples from enemies within, resists what the profane call *Reform*, innovation, and novelty, stands in constant preparation to maintain immutable its Landmarks, customs, and usages, it will go down to the generations to come as we have received it from the ages, "bright as the sun, fair as the moon, and powerful as an army with banners."

The Report of Right Worshipful Past Grand Master REED, Grand Secretary, is a very careful exposition of the condition of the Craft in Washington. It is gratifying to know that it is prosperous, happy, contented, and growing.

The Grand Lodge changed the name of New Tacoma Lodge to Tacoma Lodge, No. 22.

Past Grand Master REED, Chairman, reported to recognize South Australia Grand Lodge. There seems to be some agitation on the subject of *liquor* in this Grand Lodge. We regret to see a great moral question, which should be treated as a purely social problem, assume the phases that are presented in the Proceedings of a Grand Lodge of Freemasons. We regret it. When in such matters, zeal, ever so honorable and possibly sincere, goes beyond due bounds, it happens that in the after-time a perilous reaction overturns even proper restrictive efforts.

Our esteemed Brother, Past Grand Master THOMAS MIL-

BURNE REED, presented the Annual Report of the Committee of Correspondence, with the aid frankly acknowledged and due credit given to Brother "Z." The merit of this initial is that it is the last of the alphabet; surely, though "L." has "passed" over the dark and silent river, did all the other letters, down to the very last, fail our Brother in the hours of his labor and travail? Well, let it be so. It is another example of the prophetic and divine utterance, "the first shall be last and the last first." We hail Brother "Z." with the generous acclaim of that true spirit of fraternity which helps a Brother in distress.

However, this report is a most able and admirable paper. It is thorough.

Those questions of Masonic law which the review of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodges suggests as important, are handled with consummate skill.

We would like to reprint some of them. Indeed, it was our determination. When we came to make a selection, it happened we could not select. There was so much that we would fain have taken, that but little of the report was left. This is an honest confession, and we make it in sincerity and truth, and feel better now it is written.

"Z." reports on fifteen Grand Lodges. How was it that Brother "Z." was assigned to these fifteen reports? We know that President Judges assign to their associates certain opinions to write, but how did our esteemed Brother, Past Grand Master ZIEGLER, happen to receive the reports which he reviewed? This may be a family secret; if so, so be it. His work was well done. Washington must be congratulated on its reportorial Masonic Committee.

There is neither excuse nor apology or explanation necessary for the labor of our Brother REED. It is plumb, level, and square.

It is late as we now write, the light is severe on the eyes, but, as we do not use glasses, we can say good-night, and without any trespassing on the favorite salutation of our Past Grand Master, PERKINS, add, "*Pax vobiscum.*"

Most Worshipful Brother LOUIS ZIEGLER was elected Grand

Master, and Right Worshipful Past Grand Master THOMAS MELBURNE REED was re-elected Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN—1885.

PROCEEDINGS of the Forty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, held in Kilbourn Hall, in the city of Milwaukee, June 9, 1885.

Most Worshipful OLIVER LIBBEY, Grand Master, presiding, and Right Worshipful JOHN W. LAFLIN, Grand Secretary.

Grand Master LIBBEY's address is a complete report of his official action. He is a very careful workman, and leaves no room for any doubt as to his convictions of right in his treatment of the matters that claimed his official notice.

He properly refers to the deaths of members of Subordinate Lodges of his jurisdiction, and also to the death of Grand Master MURRAY, of Virginia, with most appropriate sentiments. His notice of the death of Past Grand Master ELBERT H. ENGLISH, of Arkansas, is most fraternal and just.

The Grand Master states he has taken possession of the charter and property of Jefferson Lodge, No. 9, which was forfeited by the Grand Lodge.

He dedicated the new Hall of New London Lodge, New London.

The Grand Lecturer dedicated the new Hall of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 210, at Ashland, also the new Hall of Racine Lodge, No. 18, and Bell City Lodge, No. 92.

The Grand Master's decisions on Masonic law are sound as we think, and we agree in his reasons therefor.

The Grand Master mentions that an interest is manifest in his jurisdiction for the establishment of a "home for indigent Masons and those dependent on them."

The following remarks we quote as eminently worthy of the commendation of the Craft:

“Following the precedent heretofore established, I have unwillingly granted, in one instance, a dispensation permitting a Lodge to appear in public procession on Decoration Day. In granting it, I stated my objections to the Master of the Lodge. Such permissions are, in my opinion, at variance with the well-established principles of Masonry in regard to the appearance of Lodges in promiscuous parades; and although the occasion is one in which all good citizens may well desire to participate, it is more appropriate to do so as citizens and not as members of a distinct organization.”

He closes his address with the very best epitome it is possible to make of his address in these words: “Having thus reported to you such of my official acts as seemed of sufficient importance to require your attention, and made such recommendations as the present requirements of the Craft appear to demand,” . . . thus closes his excellent paper.

Brother CHAPIN, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, offered a resolution recognizing the Grand Lodge of Victoria.

The charter of Fairfield Lodge, No. 100, was forfeited.

PROCEEDINGS of a Special Communication, held November 26, to dedicate the “rooms which had been provided by Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 210.

“After the ceremonies, so it is reported, the Masons and their families partook of a bountiful supper, spread in the spacious banquet-room of the Lodge. A sociable and dance followed.”

This we cannot believe is within the proper spirit of Freemasonry. All these pleasant assemblies should be held in other places than a Lodge-room dedicated to Freemasonry.

A SPECIAL Communication was held at Racine, April 6, 1885. After the ceremonies, so it is reported, “a large party followed.”

We regret this fashion. It is not a precedent we think should have the force of a precedent, in Masonry.

Our esteemed Brother, Right Worshipful EMMONS E. CHAPIN, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented his Annual Report.

There are some reviews of Grand Lodges that excite our admiration for their ability and sound teachings on Masonic law. Our esteemed Brother has gained a high place as a Masonic Reviewer heretofore, and this report emphasizes and enlarges it.

We think there is a misprint after the caption "New Mexico" in the copy before us.

We thank our esteemed Brother CHAPIN for his notice of Pennsylvania.

We have been greatly instructed by a careful reading of this report. We salute our Brother in the bonds of our ancient and honorable Fraternity.

Most Worshipful OLIVER LIBBEY was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN W. LAFLIN was re-elected Grand Secretary.

WYOMING—1884.

PROCEEDINGS of the Tenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming, held in the hall of Laramie Lodge, No. 3, in the city of Laramie, on October 14, 1884.

Right Worshipful E. F. CHENEY, *as* Grand Master, presiding; Right Worshipful JOHN H. SYMONS, Grand Secretary.

A letter was read from Grand Master JOHN K. JEFFREY, stating he was unavoidably prevented from attending Grand Lodge. He forwarded his address to be read by the Grand Secretary. It is short and without matter for special notice.

The report of the Grand Secretary contained a full account of the business of the Grand Lodge under his supervision and control.

"Temperance" received notice, forbidding any "Subordinate Lodge for initiating or receiving into membership '*any person*'

(*sic*) engaged in the manufacture, sale, or importation of any spirituous or malt liquors as a beverage," etc., etc., and the Grand Lodge so ordered. Rather an intemperate proceeding, many may think.

There was no other action of Grand Lodge that we think needs special notice.

There is no report from a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Most Worshipful E. F. CHENEY was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN H. SYMONS re-elected Grand Secretary.

CONCLUSION.

WE have thus expressed our views in this review of the Proceedings of our Sister Grand Lodges.

Much time has been consumed, a large measure of anxious thought has been given to this labor. It, is of course, imperfect. It will not receive the entire concurrence of Masonic opinion. This we know. It has but one merit. As we write these concluding lines, we can affirm that the only sentiment that has actuated us was love and devotion to Freemasonry, and an unstinted and unimpeachable respect, regard, and esteem for each and all of our Sister Grand Lodges.

Let us add, that for the Brethren who are Chairmen of Committee of Correspondence we entertain the strongest feelings of fraternal affection.

Our Masonic life and its energies are yet devoted to maintaining faith in Freemasonry, and the perpetuity of its Landmarks.

2) If we unseemly express this purpose, forgive the manner
in accepting the motive.

RICHARD VAUX, Past Grand Master,
Chairman Committee of Correspondence.

MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA.

St. John's Day, December, 1885. e/

